

Arthur Miall

18 Bowdler St. Fleet St. E.C.

THE

# Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXIV.—NEW SERIES, No. 969.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 1864.

PRICE WITH SUPPLEMENT { UNSTAMPED .. 5d.  
STAMPED ..... 6d.

## EXTENSION of CHURCH-RATES.—

At a MEETING of MEMBERS of VARIOUS RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS, held at FENDALL'S HOTEL, WEST-MINSTER, APRIL 26th, 1864,

Sir CHARLES DOUGLAS, M.P., in the Chair, it was unanimously resolved:—

I. That during the present century the members of the Church of England have, by means of voluntary contributions, erected numerous churches, maintained them in repair, and defrayed the expenses of Divine service therein.

II. That in many cases the ancient parishes of the country have been divided for ecclesiastical purposes, and, on the assumption that no new pecuniary burthens would be thereby imposed on the ratepayers, opposition has not been offered to the creation of district or new parishes.

III. That by the 6th and 7th Vic. c. 37 (Sir Robert Peel's Act), it is enacted (s. 18), that nothing therein contained "shall be construed to alter the rights, privileges, or liabilities, ecclesiastical or civil, of any parish or district," except as therein expressly provided; and that such enactment was then, and has ever since been, regarded as negating the right to levy Church-rates in the districts or parishes created under the Act.

IV. That while the 10th and 20th Vic. c. 104 (Marquis of Blandford's Act), was under discussion in the House of Commons, it was distinctly stated by the author of the measure, as well as by the Home Secretary, that it would not confer on new parishes the right of making Church-rates (Hansard, vol. 142, p. 575); but that attempts have, nevertheless, been made to levy rates under the foregoing Acts, and litigation has been occasioned by the doubts entertained respecting the legal construction of the statutes.

V. That the Bill for Consolidating and Amending the Church-building and New Parishes Act, now before Parliament, by retaining and altering the provisions which are alleged to authorise the levying of rates, will, it is believed, give a legislative sanction to such allegation; and by the facilities which it will afford for the multiplication of new parishes—already above 1,600 in number—will tend greatly to aggravate the admitted evils of the Church-rate system.

VI. That, in view of these facts, in the judgment of this meeting, it is the bounden duty of Parliament to avail itself of the opportunity afforded by the consolidation and amendment of the Church-building Acts for giving effect to its own intentions, by distinctly declaring that Church-rates shall not be levied in parishes which have been, or may be, created under those Acts.

VII. That a committee be now formed, for the purpose of securing that object, and that the opponents of Church-rates throughout the country be urged to adopt suitable measures for making known their wishes on the subject to the Government and the House of Commons.

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, } Secretaries.  
CHARLES SHEPHERD, }

2, Serjeants'-Inn, Fleet-street, London.

## EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.

### TERCENTENARY OF THE DEATH OF JOHN CALVIN.

THE ANNUAL SOIREE will (D.V.) be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, GREAT QUEEN-STREET, LINCOLN'S-INN-FIELDS, on FRIDAY EVENING, May 27, 1864.

This being the Tercentenary of the day of JOHN CALVIN'S Death, it is intended, in compliance with the invitation of our fellow Protestants in Geneva, to commemorate the event by making special reference to the blessings conferred on the Christian Church through him and his brother Reformers, and by devout thanksgiving to God.

All members and friends of the Evangelical Alliance, ladies as well as gentlemen, are earnestly invited to be present.

The Right Hon. Lord CALTHORPE, President of the Alliance, will take the Chair.

The Rev. T. R. Birks, M.A., the Rev. George Smith, D.D., the Hon. and Rev. B. W. Noel, M.A., the Rev. Wm. Arthur, M.A., and the Rev. Thomas McOrie, D.D., LL.D., will address the meeting.

Tea and Coffee will be provided at Six o'clock.

Tickets, 1s. each, to be had at this Office, and at Freemasons' Hall, on or before the Evening of meeting.

JAMES DAVIS, Secretary.

HERMANN SCHMETTAU, Foreign Sec.

7, Adam-street, Strand, W.C.,  
May 13, 1864.

## THE ANNIVERSARY SERVICES

### PARK CHAPEL, CROUCH-END, HORNSEY,

Will be conducted (D.V.) in the following order:—

On SUNDAY, May 29, 1864, the Rev. A. M. HENDERSON will preach in the Morning, at Eleven o'clock; and the Rev. ALEXANDER HANNAY in the Evening, at half-past six.

On the following WEDNESDAY, June 1st, the Hon. and Rev. BAPTIST W. NOEL, M.A., will preach in the Morning, at Twelve o'clock; and the Rev. NEWMAN HALL, LL.B., in the Evening, at half-past six.

Collections will be made at the close of each service.

\* \* A Cold Collation will be provided at the close of the Morning Service, in a tent erected in a field, if the weather be fine; otherwise in the New School and Lecture-room adjoining the Chapel.

Tea at Five o'clock. Tickets for the Dinner, 2s. 6d.; for the Tea, 1s.; or double tickets for Dinner and Tea, 3s. each.

## MIDNIGHT MEETING MOVEMENT.

A RESULT MEETING to be held (D.V.) in THE HALL, 5, RED LION-SQUARE, W.C., on TUESDAY EVENING, May 31st, 1864.

Refreshments provided at Six o'clock.

To commence at Seven o'clock in the Evening.

Tickets may be obtained of the Hon. Sec., Mr. John Stabb, at the Office, 5, Red Lion-square, W.C.; or at the "Revival" Office, 3, Amen-corner, E.C.

## ABBEY FOREGATE NEW CHURCH, SHREWSBURY.

This CHURCH will be OPENED for DIVINE WORSHIP on MAY 31, 1864. The Revs. R. VAUGHAN, D.D., and E. MELLOR, M.A., will preach. The Revs. J. C. Gallaway, A.M., G. W. Conder, J. Sibree, W. H. Dyer, and other ministers will take part in the service.

On JUNE 1, the Rev. G. W. CONDER will preach.

## HOSPITAL for SICK CHILDREN, 49, GREAT ORMOND-STREET, W.C.

This Hospital is not Endowed, but is wholly dependent on Voluntary Contributions for support.

FUNDS are urgently needed.

F. H. DICKINSON, Chairman.

BANKERS:

Williams, Deacon, and Co.; Messrs. Hoare; Messrs. Herries.

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BEDS from 1s. 6d.; PLAIN BREAKFAST or TEA, 1s.

The above house is well and centrally situated. There is a spacious Coffee-room overlooking the Square; it is within Five Minutes' Walk of Holborn, and near the Inns of Court, British Museum, St. Paul's, &c.; and admirably suited for parties, either on pleasure or business.

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FORSYTH'S "COBDEN" HOTEL, 87, ARGYLE-STREET, GLASGOW, Central, Elegantly Furnished, Commodious, and Perfectly Ventilated. Also FORSYTH'S HOTEL, ABERDEEN.

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PRIVATE BOARDING HOUSE,

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Within easy distance of Railway Communication to all parts.

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MEN between the ages of Eighteen and Thirty, and YOUNG WOMEN between Seventeen and Twenty-five, are ADMITTED into HOMERTON COLLEGE, the Training Institution of the Congregational Board of Education.

Applications to be addressed to the Rev. W. J. Unwin, LL.D., The College, Homerton, N.E.

## WANTED, by a YOUNG LADY, age

Twenty-three, a SITUATION as COMPANION to a LADY. Is well adapted to wait upon an Invalid, and would have no objection to travel. First-class references can be given.

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A Dissenter preferred.

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habits and talents, who is well acquainted with the GENERAL DRAPERY TRADE, Wholesale and Retail, also GROCERY and TEA TRADE, is desirous of meeting with a SITUATION in a good house of business, or would be happy to make an Engagement with a Manufacturer, where activity and confidence are required, as SUPERINTENDENT, or to assist the Principal, where there would be the prospect of successful advancement. A liberal salary will be expected, for thorough devotedness to duty. Testimonials to character will be given.

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Drapers, &c., Worcester, Established 1842, have now a VACANCY for an Educated and suitable YOUTH who has been religiously trained.

Apply for terms to Mr. Scott, Draper, Worcester.

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Apply, E. J. and A. Upward, Pyle-street, Newport, Isle of Wight.

## TO CORNHANDLERS.—WANTED, a con-

fidential BUSINESS MAN to ESTABLISH and CONDUCT a RETAIL TRADE

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## WANTED, an intelligent YOUTH, about

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SONS, ROCHFORD, ESSEX.

Principal—Mr. GEORGE FOSTER.

Terms, 20l. per annum. Circulars at Messrs. Mead and Powell's, 73, Cheapside.

N.B. Preparatory Department at Forest-hill.

## EDUCATION.—NOTICE of REMOVAL.—

The Rev. OSWALD JACKSON begs to inform his friends that he has arranged to RESIGN his PASTORATE at Ringwood, Hants, at MIDSUMMER NEXT, and will then (D.V.) REMOVE his EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT to a commodious House, surrounded by its Grounds of 15 acres, at Theobalds, Cheshunt, Herts.

Further particulars in future advertisements.

## EDUCATION for YOUNG LADIES,

LANSDOWNE HOUSE, LONDON-ROAD, LEICESTER.

(Situation high and healthy, at the outskirts of the town.)

Conducted by the Misses MIALL, assisted by Professors, and French and English Resident Governesses.—A thoroughly solid English education, under the immediate superintendence of the Principals; with all the necessary accomplishments—French, German, Latin, Music, Singing, Drawing, &c. Occasional Scientific Lectures from Professors. Special attention given to moral and religious training; and the comforts and advantages of a refined home provided.

References to the parents of the pupils.

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HALL, near HOUNSLOW, is conducted with special regard to the requirements of the Sons of respectable Tradesmen and Farmers.

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A Prospectus forwarded upon application; and Pupils admitted at any time.

## SPECIAL NOTICE.

## CLERICAL, MEDICAL, and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

All persons who effect Policies on the Participating Scale before June 30th, 1864, will be entitled at the Next Bonus to one year's additional Share of Profits over later Assurers.

Tables of Rates and Forms of Proposal, and the last Report showing the financial position of the Society, can be obtained from any of the Society's Agents, or of

GEORGE CUTCLIFFE, Actuary and Secretary.

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## THE MARITIME CREDIT COMPANY

(LIMITED).

Incorporated under "The Companies' Act, 1862," whereby the liability of each Shareholder is limited.

CAPITAL, £1,000,000. (With power to increase.)

In 20,000 Shares of 50l. each. First issue 10,000 Shares.

Deposit on Application, £1 per Share and £4 on Allotment.

It is not proposed to call up more than 12l. 10s. per Share, in instalments of 2l. 10s. at intervals of not less than three months.

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Matthew M. Willis, Esq. (Messrs. Willis and Co.), Liverpool.

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London—The Union Bank of London.

The Agra and Masterman's Bank (Limited).

Liverpool—The North Western Bank (Limited).

Ireland—The Provincial Bank of Ireland.

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London—Messrs. Davies, Son, Campbell, and Reeves.

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Glasgow—Messrs. McKean and Auld.

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## TEMPORARY OFFICES.

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This Association is formed for the purpose of making advances by way of mortgage or otherwise on Shipping, Wharves, Ship Yards, Docks, Warehouses, and every description of Maritime Securities, and will undertake the general business of a Financial Company.

The Articles of Association may be seen at the Offices of the Company.

Detailed Prospectuses and Forms of Application for Shares may be obtained from the Bankers, Brokers, and Solicitors, and at the Temporary Offices of the Company.

Application for Shares must be made in the Form annexed to the Prospectus, accompanied by the deposit of 2l. per Share. If no allotment be made, the deposit will be returned in full, and if a less number be allotted than is applied for, the surplus will be used towards the payment on allotment.





**GENERAL LIFE and FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,**

62, KING WILLIAM-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

ESTABLISHED 1837.

CAPITAL £1,000,000.

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 Andrew Lusk, Esq., Ald.  
 James Pilkington, Esq., M.P.  
 Right Hon. C. P. Villiers, M.P.  
 Edward Wilson, Esq.

**PROGRESS OF THE COMPANY.**

At the Annual Meeting of the Company, on the 19th of May, 1864, it was stated that 503 new life policies, assuring £137,730, had been issued during the year 1863, and that the gross fire premiums for that period were £52,310 2s. 7d., in both instances showing a large increase over the business of any previous year.

The steady progress of the Company is further shown by the facts that the new life business of the quinquennial period which closed with 1862, was 145 per cent. more than that of the preceding five years, while the fire premiums were 185 per cent. more.

**INCOME.**

The income of the Company for 1863 was £93,623 14s. 11d. BONUS IN 1863.

A bonus of 23 per cent., equal to a reversionary bonus of from 30 to 40 per cent., according to the age of the assured, was declared in May 1863.

**RESERVE FUND.**

The life reserve fund in hand is upwards of six times the amount of the annual life income. The assured are entirely free from responsibility and the mutual liabilities of partnership.

Prospectuses, forms of proposal, &c., on application.

THOMAS PRICE, Secretary.

**THE ALLIANCE NATIONAL LAND, BUILDING, and INVESTMENT COMPANY (LIMITED).**

First Capital—One Hundred Thousand Pounds, in 10,000 Shares of £10 each. Deposit £1 per Share. Future calls not to exceed 10 shillings per Share, not to be at less intervals than three months.

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CHAIRMAN OF ULSTER BOARD—William Browne, Esq., (Messrs. Browne, Reid, and Co.) Waring-street, Belfast, and Riverstone, Holywood.

CHAIRMAN OF MUNSTER BOARD—Robert Scott, Esq., (Messrs. Robert Scott and Co., Iron and Hardware Merchants), St. Patrick's Quay, Cork.

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This Company affords great advantages to persons who may desire to invest large or small sums on undoubted security, and at a high rate of interest.

1st. By PURCHASING SHARES they may become proprietors, and entitled to share in all the profits of the Company.

2nd. By TAKING SUBSCRIPTION DEBENTURES, with monthly payments, as in ordinary Building Societies, they may secure thereon 5 per cent. compound interest.

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Prospectuses and every information forwarded for one stamp.

**PROGRESS OF THE COMPANY.**

Since January 1, 1864, the sum of £16,000 sterling has been advanced on first-class securities, and upwards of Seven Thousand Shares and Debentures have been taken up. Mortgages for more than £40,000 are in course of completion. The Company now consists of upwards of 1,500 Share and Debenture holders.

Persons desirous of taking Shares before a premium is placed thereon must apply for the same without delay. The next allotment will be made on the first day of June.

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**THE ALLIANCE NATIONAL LAND, BUILDING, and INVESTMENT COMPANY (LIMITED).**

NOTICE is hereby given that on and after JUNE 1st, 1864, NO APPLICATIONS FOR SHARES will be received except at a Premium.

By Order of the Board,

JOSEPH A. HORNER, General Manager.

Chief Offices, 156, Strand, London, W.C.

**BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.**

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CASH BONUS OF 24 PER CENT.

The following are specimens of Reversionary Bonuses:—

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43	15	£ 500	£ 8 11 3	£ 9 9 2	£ 9 9 2
24	16	600	203 4 0	107 14 6	707 14 6
35	17	500	235 8 4	105 17 2	605 17 2
48	17	600	354 1 3	130 17 0	630 17 0
38	15	1,000	313 15 0	180 3 11	1,180 3 11
32	17	300	133 13 8	60 10 0	260 10 0
29	16	500	188 0 0	94 10 9	594 10 9
38	17	800	163 17 0	65 11 3	865 11 3

Prospectuses and all needful information may be obtained on application to

ALFRED LENCH SAUL, Secretary.

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(By order) JOHN ANDERSON, Secretary.

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PRIZE MEDAL AWARDED, 1862.

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for these supports has caused W. H. BAILEY to devote particular care to their manufacture. They are made of various qualities and prices, to suit all who are suffering from the complaints incidental to females. Prices, 15s., 21s., 31s. 6d., and 42s.

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TRUSSES of the most improved description from 5s. each.

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Dr. G. W. Jester's Ventriloquial Entertainment. Mr. George Buckland's New Romantic and Musical Entertainment daily at Four and Nine. Open Twelve to Five, Seven to Ten. Admission to the whole, 1s. Saturday mornings, 2s. 6d.

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(PATENT)

**MIXTURE OF TEAS.**

6lbs. Sent to any part of England carriage free.

Agents wanted in all Towns where there are none appointed.

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**HORNIMAN'S PURE TEA**

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# THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXIV.—NEW SERIES, No. 969.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 1864.

PRICE WITH SUPPLEMENT { UNSTAMPED .. 5d.  
STAMPED..... 6d.

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## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

### CHURCH-RATE EXTENSION.

GOOD! It is a great advantage when you must fight to know what you are fighting for. If the Liberatorists suffer themselves to look upon the Attorney-General's Bill for the Consolidation of the Church Building Acts as a harmless measure, it will not be from any lack of candour in its supporters. Mr. Knott, the Secretary of the Committee of Laymen, has disclosed both their objects and their hopes. They intend, under the subtle guidance of Sir Roundell Palmer, to assume the offensive. They will carry the war into the enemy's country. They were at their wit's end three or four years ago how to retain Church-rates. They proposed all manner of compromises. They were willing to give up for ever a rate for the Church in the parishes in which it had already been abolished in vestry. They admitted the unsoundness, or, at all events, the inexpediency of the compulsory system, as it stood. They were anxious to preserve it only in rural parishes. In populous towns they did not want it. But a change has come over the spirit of their dream. They fancy the chances are in their favour. They will listen to no concession. They will have all that the law ever gave them. They will try for more. The smaller and more manageable areas into which, by comparatively recent statutory enactments, parishes have been subdivided for ecclesiastical purposes, offer them more favourable conditions for carrying out their theory. Hitherto, it has been supposed that these district parishes were without legal power to levy any ecclesiastical tax. It was so supposed simply because the Legislature so intended. But now it is meant to take advantage of the doubtfulness of the expressions in which Parliament embodied its intentions, and to invest these new parishes with the power of levying Church-rates, not, indeed, by altering the statutory authority as it is believed to stand at the present moment, but by refusing so to alter it as to make it conformable to the known intentions of Parliament when the principal Acts for building new churches, and for constituting new parishes were passed. Those Acts are to be consolidated and amended for the benefit of Churchmen, but are not to be amended, even to the extent of declaring the mind of the Parliaments which passed them, for the sake of Dissenters.

We have some sixteen hundred of these district parishes which have already been formed under the authority of these Acts, chiefly, too, in large manufacturing places. "The charge for service expenses in these parishes," we are told by Mr. Knott, with a frankness which is touching in its simplicity, "amounts frequently—inclusive of lighting, warming, and officials—to some 30%, 40%, and 50% per annum, while the income left from the

sittings, not free, together with an endowment in the proportion of some 30% annually, makes up 100% to 150% per annum to the minister, without resort to Church-rates; in such cases the incumbent has, in too many instances, largely to bear the expenses of Divine worship out of his scant income, besides a portion of the expenses frequently of education in his day and Sunday schools; and this in largely free churches, be it remembered." Can any state of things reflect greater discredit upon the congregations, or more suspicion upon the general system of Church administration under which it has become common? Why, amongst Dissenters, who do not consist of the wealthier classes of society, these incidental expenses, together with the income of the minister, seldom amount to less than the larger sum mentioned by Mr. Knott, and are met without any aid from endowment. We, at least, are not mean enough to shove off our expenses upon the minister. Cases, perhaps, might be discovered in which the unspeakably shabby practice obtains of compelling the teacher to pay for the comforts of the taught—and they are held to be simply disgraceful. But our fellow-Christians of the Establishment seem to think, and are encouraged to think, that their readiest way to relieve their own pocket is to throw the burden upon others—Dissenters, if the law will but allow them,—if it will not, then upon their own clergy. They require "lighting, warming, and officials," they must have, as the Secretary of the Liberation Society says, "clerks, organists, beadles, and bellringers"—the first are regarded as necessary to comfort, the last, to respectability in their celebration of public worship; but these are things which they will not pay for if they can help it. So, as it is obviously enough unfair to mulct their own ill-remunerated minister, they are solemnly appealed to, as the next best step, to fleece those of the parishioners who do not attend their church.

Well, now, we venture to proclaim our conviction that not even under the auspices of Her Majesty's Attorney-General can the legal power of levying Church-rates be extended to these new parishes. We can prevent him from passing his Bill of many clauses, quite as certainly as, in 1828, the few representatives of Free-Churchism compelled Sir Robert Peel to withdraw his measure for building and repairing churches. We have not a doubt upon our minds that we shall prevent him. But if it were otherwise—if it should happen that Sir Roundell Palmer should be found to possess sufficient political influence or authority to force his measure through the House of Commons this Session in spite of formidable, determined, persistent opposition—if having done our duty to the utmost, we should fail in consequence of the temper of the present Parliament—our want of success would not deeply grieve us. The Liberation Society, certainly, would have but small reason for taking their defeat to heart. It would double the number of their constituents in a twelvemonth. It would work to the advantage of their ultimate object, as no immediate success of their own would be likely to do. Oh! to see Manchester, Birmingham, Nottingham, Leicester, Coventry, and twenty other populous places, brought under a new demand for Church-rates, in every district parish into which mother parishes have been divided! If, to any extent, or in any respect, they are apathetic now, they would be apathetic no longer. Were we only to act upon the maxim, "Let us do evil that good may come," we should let this measure of the Attorney-General quietly pass into law without any contest. We cannot do that. But should it pass, and be acted upon as most surely it would be, the Liberation Society might accept the result without shame or repining.

There are other and larger interests at issue, however, than the popularity or progress of any organisation. Social peace, Christian good-will and charity, the reputation of the religion common to both parties, forbid any collusion between the opponents and advocates of the compulsory

system. We must do the duty before us without speculating upon ulterior results—and that duty is to defeat this Bill, unless we can insert in it a clause which will effectually prevent the levying of Church-rates in new parishes. We need only refer to the letter of Mr. J. Carvell Williams to which we have given publicity in another column, to show the necessity of prompt and energetic action. We reiterate his words—"We are now plainly told that the existing law must be maintained because it extends Church-rates. If we were deluded in 1856, we must atone for our negligence by vigilance and resoluteness in 1864. We now know what is at stake—and it will be strange indeed if we allow ourselves to be either ridden over or befooled."

## ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

We are afraid that it would be difficult, notwithstanding the assertions and protestations of two or three generations, to convince even a small minority of the members of the Established Church, that the Nonconformists of this kingdom have no desire to see that Church, as a Church, stripped of any of its legitimate spiritual power. We are afraid that it would be still more difficult to convince them that, amongst "political" Nonconformists especially, there is a deep and increasing interest felt in the spiritual work in which many Churchmen are engaged. For ourselves, we think we can most heartily say, that no Churchman can have read the proceedings of the great Church Societies during the present month with a more attentive and eager interest than we have done. We have read them all, and some with thankfulness and delight. It has been refreshing to us, beyond measure, to feel that, in no Christian organisation in the world is there a greater desire for the spread of religion than there is in the Episcopal Church of this country; although, perhaps, without any violation either of charity or truth, it may be said that this desire is, to a considerable extent, alloyed. Churchmanship, here and there, will assert itself, and sometimes in a protesting and very demonstrative manner, but these assertions and demonstrations are, after all, no more than is natural. The same thing is done on most platforms. We cannot and ought not to expect that Church missions should be entirely indifferent to the Episcopal form of government, any more than we can or ought to expect that Baptists should be indifferent to their distinctive principles, or Congregationalists to theirs. But, just as the Congregationalist can and does rejoice in the success of Baptist missions, and the Baptist in the success of Congregational missions, so can we all rejoice in the success of Episcopalian missions. We almost hear, as we write this, some Church-defender cry aloud, "*Credat Judeus!*" But, nevertheless, we can say what we have said. It does us good to say it, if it does no good to Churchmen. We can't hope, of course, to convince religious thimblerriggers like those who are supporting the Attorney-General's Church-rate Extension Bill. Men who habitually practise vice get their consciences seared. Men who have ceased to love virtue, generally cease to believe in the existence of any virtue at all. He who believes in getting money "honestly if you can, dishonestly if you must," will doubt the honesty of everybody. But there is "honour among thieves," and there is, despite some appearances to the contrary, a very large amount of real religion in the Church.

With this full assurance and belief we have read the proceedings of the Church Societies, and we should like, if it were possible, to give somewhat more than a bald summary of them. Not, however, being able to do this, we do not think it would be very interesting to give any summary at all, but just to pick our way through them, and point out some things that have most interested us.

Amongst the best Church meetings of the year



is the meeting of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel—that old Commonwealth society, a sketch of the history of which was given in our columns a year or two ago. The operations of this society have been peculiarly successful in America. In 1701, as we gather from the Archbishop of Canterbury's speech at St. James's Hall, there were only four Episcopally ordained clergymen there; now, there are seventy bishops and 3,000 clergymen. But the Archbishop evidently includes in these figures the Federal and Confederate States of America, which owe very little to the operations of this society.—John Wesley having been the first to give an impetus to Episcopalianism in the old colonies. There is another statement in the Archbishop's speech which is peculiarly valuable. He says that a great improvement has taken place in regard to the self-supporting power of the congregations. It appears, he added, that, as a general rule, the society made no grants towards churches or parsonage-houses, but solely towards the support of ministers, and that was materially diminished. For instance, he said, in Canada the 14,000*l.* which was given twenty years ago, was now reduced to 7,000*l.*; to the West Indies the grants had been reduced from 7,000*l.* to 1,000*l.*, and to the Australian colonies from 6,000*l.* to 2,000*l.* One cannot, of course, help asking, in the face of such statements, how it is that that which is judged to be so healthy a sign in the colonies, is so opposed in England? The Archbishop quotes these figures as signs of "improvement," but any tendency in this direction at home is denounced as retrogression. There self-support is to be commended and encouraged, *here* self-support is anti-Christian and we know not what. Mr. Gladstone gave an admirable address at the meeting of this society. We make from it two quotations—one with respect to the advantage of self-support, and the other with respect to the prosperity of Voluntary Episcopal Churches. The first relates to the withdrawal of the Parliamentary vote:—

The speech of Lord Harrowby reminds me of a remarkable instance which may be shortly told as an anecdote with respect to the entire change of view that has taken place in this society in regard to the proper and legitimate sources of its strength. I am not speaking in disparagement of its founders or of its members at any period, who were always in advance of the times in which they lived, and if they not only came up to the measure of the times but were the heralds and the standard-bearers of good in endeavouring to induce their country to prosecute an enterprise of the largest scope to which a nation can devote itself, they deserve from us, when we look back upon them, nothing but honour and respect and gratitude. It is therefore with no disrespect to them that I refer to the period when the vote of the House of Commons was withdrawn; and as Lord Harrowby has referred to the necessities and influences which act upon those who hold the office I have now the honour to fill, I will venture to go beyond him and say, Never have anything to do with Chancellors of the Exchequer. (Laughter.) Your Grace will no doubt recollect, at all events I well remember, that Dr. Burton was Professor of Divinity at Oxford in the year 1833, when the Parliamentary vote was withdrawn. It amounted to 16,000*l.* a-year, which at that time was equal to four-fifths of the entire income of the society. A meeting was held at Oxford on the occasion, and great was the dismay that overspread, and blank the visages of those who attended it, and on its being suggested to Dr. Burton, who was not only an eminent scholar but an excellent and enlightened man, that as the vote of Parliament had been withdrawn, the best thing would be to see if it was possible to supply its place by voluntary assistance, he replied, "If the sum were less that might be done, but being so enormous it is impossible." That was not his error; so far as it was an error, it was the error of the age. Our age, perhaps, has its errors too, and if we are fainthearted as to the objects we have in view, the time may come when those who follow us may look back to our faintheartedness and reproach us for our despondency and despair.

The second relates to the singular prosperity of an unendowed and unpatronised Church:—

Perhaps we may say with truth that it has been given to the Colonial Bishops more than to any order of men to wipe off the reproach that for 300 years has been cast upon the Church of England. For 300 years it has been the stock reproach against the Church that in a country where she had the support of law and civil authority there she must exercise a certain civil and social influence, but that the civil authority was not only the fountain of her power considered as an Establishment, but of her whole religious life and action. I think it is not difficult to argue from the history and constitution of the Church that there was no just foundation for that reproach, and that from the time of the Reformation downwards the Church has but little cause to blush for the terms on which she received the countenance and aid of the State, in the manner she exhibited to the world the godly union between the several powers of which the State is composed. But though it might be easy so to argue, it was not so easy, perhaps, to convince. It was true that until lately the Church of England only existed in strength where she existed under the immediate protection of the State. It was open to doubt, at least we could not say that it rested on conclusive evidence, whether she was able to go forth unaided to distant quarters of the world, and commit herself not only to our colonies but to barbarous tribes—whether in all countries and to all races she could vindicate for herself the position of that internal spiritual and permanent life by which alone in the long run she must exist. The Bishops of the Church in the colonies and the form the Church has acquired under them have conclusively answered that question. There has been no affection,

pressure, or exclusive advantage or support to sustain them. Public endowment has been almost in every case absent, there has been no State aid, religious and exclusive preference has been withdrawn—in short, the Church in the colonies has been in all respects a self-supporting and voluntary Church. The almonry of Christian almsgiving is all that she has had to depend on; her apostolic constitution, her orthodox belief, and the pious life of her clergy have been the means by which her work has been carried out. In no essential element of a Christian Church has she found herself wanting, and if the treasures of this society have been poured forth to minister to the spiritual wants of our settlers in the colonies, we have a rich reward in the proofs they have given us that the Church in which we have been baptized and bred has in it every element of life, every element to enable her to perform her work and to maintain her in that vital and immediate communion with her Great Head by which alone she can be, and I trust will be, a blessing to this and to many lands, and to all future generations.

Mr. Gladstone, it will be seen, praises the fruits and the success of voluntarism almost beyond measure, but yet the union of Church and State is a "godly union." Ought not this to satisfy the *Saturday Reviewer* of last week, who speculates so morosely on the possibility of Mr. Gladstone joining the Liberation movement? Not that we have anything to say against such a possibility; only Mr. Gladstone himself at present gives no sign, or if he does, he does so unconsciously to himself.

The Church Missionary Society is the counterpart of the Propagation Society. The Propagation Society is High-Church, the other decidedly Low-Church. But the success of the Church Missionary Society is in one respect as great as that of the Propagation Society, and perhaps it is more apparent. The High Churchmen appear to have aimed mainly at organization; the Low Churchmen at direct religious results. The latter have not neglected the former, nor the former the latter; but this we think may be stated as the characteristic difference between the two societies. Hence the Church Missionary Society has not a word to say concerning Bishops, but much concerning converts and communicants. We gather from its report that there are 269 clergymen, besides a number of other teachers supported, amounting in the aggregate to nearly 2,000, and that the society had 140 stations, with 18,110 communicants at these stations. This society is the largest Missionary Society in the world.

Now let us turn to Home Missions. The "Church Pastoral Aid Society" ranks first amongst the Home Missionary organisations of the Church. It has an income of 44,545*l.*, and has received since its establishment no less than 848,212*l.* The addresses at the meeting of this society savoured perhaps a little too much of "Churehianity," but a great deal also of Christianity. It is remarkable, too, that the best speeches should savour of both. Thus Canon Boyd spoke as follows:—

I have a theory of my own on this subject, and I dare say that some will think it rather Utopian. I hold it to be England's duty to consider the religious education of her people. I apprehend that any country has the power to select its own religion. But, if it does make such a selection, it is the duty of that country to see that that religion be carried to the fullest extent into the length and breadth of that land. I admit that it is competent for any Government to determine what religion may be taught, and, according to the Warburtonian theory, it may be said that the religion of the majority ought to be the religion of the country.

A canon ought not to need its being pointed out that this is the foundation of Mohammedanism. But with the exception of a rap at the Essayists and Reviewers by Lord Shaftesbury, who remarked that "there can be no doubt that, in the high places of the Church, there are men who are most untrue to the blessed Book on which we stand; and there can be no doubt, that if we have amongst us men who are untrue to that Book now, we shall have many more by-and-by," a lofty and earnest singleness of purpose pervaded the proceedings of this society, and one reads them with the feeling that here are men, Churchmen though they are, who are intent on something above and beyond Churchmanship—to last where the Prayer-book is possibly not reprinted.

The Scripture Readers' Society might suggest, we have often thought, a humble mode of religious work to the Nonconformist churches—or not necessarily to churches, but to Christian men and women. Can you not speak for God? You can read His Word. Are you awkward in expressing human sympathy? You can read of the Divine sympathy. Are your lips locked, as it were, in prayer? You can read of the intercession of One whose intercession is never made in vain. Sometimes, the more ambitious one's mode of work, the smaller are its results; and this, perhaps, is especially true of Christian work. It needs no display of intellect or learning to reach the human heart. A Scripture-reader may find his way to the fountains of feeling, while a pulpit orator might preach for years and yet fail to reach them. And the

poor are so ready to meet the more unobtrusive kind of effort. There is a statement in the speech of the Rector of Spitalfields which may be laid to the heart of all. In one part of his own parish, he said, there were about forty lodging-houses, making up about 1,800 beds; and a Scripture-reader visited the kitchen of some of those houses every Sunday, and read to the men and women from the Word of God. That work was commenced ten or eleven years ago by an excellent city missionary, who, one Sunday evening, in going along a certain street, was led to enter a kitchen where he found twenty or thirty men, whom he persuaded to listen to the reading of the Word of God, the result being that he was asked to come again; and what was thus suddenly commenced became a regular practice, which extended to other lodging-houses in the vicinity. Out of the whole of these lodging-houses there was not one, he believed, the inmates of which were not willing to receive any person who would come and read to them the Scriptures. The difficulty now was to find a sufficient number of good men who would give an hour on Sunday evening to such a work.

And so we might go through the reports of the Continental and the Foreign Aid Societies, where Episcopalians are sometimes *not* aided; of the Home Mission Society, which offers an admirable example of pure Evangelistic work; and even of the Irish Church Missions Society. An enormous amount of zeal is consumed in the work of these organisations; and mostly, we believe, of character as pure as any attaching to the Nonconformist Societies. But we wonder, after all, that, great as their income and work are, they are not, under all the circumstances, much greater. For Churchmen, as a rule, have not to support their own ministers, nor even, excepting in degree, the cost of their worship. And yet they contribute scarcely any more for purely missionary work than the Nonconformists. "And yet"—but ought we not to say, "and in consequence?" Perhaps the wealth of Churchmen is six times that of Dissenters, and if they were habituated to self-sacrifice, the result of their work would, we believe, be in somewhat corresponding proportion. As it is, we find the following:—

FOREIGN MISSIONS.			
CHURCH.	£	DISSENT.	£
Church Missionary Propagation . . .	154,247 87,832	Wesleyan Missionary . . .	134,238
		London . . .	81,072
		Baptist . . .	34,419
	£242,079		£249,749

In Home Missions, the Church is far in advance, excepting that all the work of the Nonconformist Churches is Home Mission work. We transcribe from the reports some other figures which, without comparison, may interest our readers:—

	£
Bible Society . . .	89,897
London Society for Promoting the Gospel among the Jews . . .	32,680
British ditto . . .	6,585
Church Pastoral Aid . . .	44,545
City Mission . . .	42,476
Colonial and Continental Church Society . . .	28,949
Scripture Readers Society . . .	11,193
Army ditto . . .	9,477
Home Missionary Society . . .	6,508
Irish Church Mission . . .	26,072
Additional Curates Society . . .	26,119
Turkish Mission Aid . . .	2,664
Sunday School Union . . .	1,754
Christian Vernacular Education Society for India . . .	5,718
Colonial Missionary Society . . .	6,718
Ragged School Union . . .	9,593
Irish Evangelical . . .	4,015
United Methodist Free Church . . .	11,855
Evangelical Continental Society . . .	1,983
Baptist Home Mission . . .	1,375
Religious Tract Society . . .	107,806

The aggregate income of the twenty-seven societies is nearly 1,000,000*l.* Let us say that, to one and all of them—Church as well as Dissent—where they preach Christianity without adding to it, or maligning it, in so far as they do so, we, and we believe all who read these lines, can wish them "God speed."

#### CHURCH-RATES IN NEW PARISHES.

The petition adopted by the meeting at Bethnal-green last week for presentation to the House of Commons was as follows:—

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled.

The humble petition of certain inhabitants of Bethnal-green, and of the Borough of the Tower Hamlets, assembled in public meeting, May 17th, 1864:

Sheweth, That during the present century numerous churches have been erected by members of the Church of England by means of voluntary contributions, and that in many cases districts, or new parishes, have been assigned to such churches.

That when the Acts of Parliament authorising the division of the ancient parishes were passed, it was



distinctly stated in Parliament that they would not authorise the levying of Church-rates.

That, nevertheless, in consequence of the doubtful language of such Acts, attempts have lately been made to levy rates for the maintenance of churches built under them.

That your petitioners observe that a bill is now before your Honourable House for consolidating and amending the said Acts.

That while they do not object to such consolidation and amendment, they do strongly object to any re-enactment of provisions which fail to effect that which the legislature intended they should effect.

That they humbly submit that advantage should be taken of the introduction of this bill, for preventing the commission of a great wrong on that part of the community who, conscientiously objecting to the imposition of Church-rates, refrained from opposing the passing of the Church-building Acts, because of the assurances of their authors, that under them Church-rates could not be levied.

Your petitioners therefore pray your Honourable House that a clause may be inserted in the "Church-building Acts Consolidation Bill" which will prevent the levying of Church-rates under such acts.

And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

#### CHURCH-RATES IN THE PARISHES.

**ST. CLEMENT DANES.**—At a vestry-meeting on the 6th, the chairman, the Rev. Mr. Hillick, refused to submit the estimate item by item, and a proposal for a penny instead of a twopenny rate found only six supporters. Mr. Truelove then moved, "That, as the compulsory imposition of Church-rates upon Dissenters is opposed to justice and morality, this meeting is of opinion that the churchwardens should propose some other mode of obtaining the requisite funds." Rejected by 33 to 17. The original motion for a twopenny rate was carried by 33 to 17.

**COLCHESTER.**—On Monday, the 2nd, Mr. James Wicks, jun., was summoned before the borough magistrates for the non-payment of 6s. 6d., Church-rates, for the purposes connected with the carrying on of the Church of England in the parish of Holy Trinity. Mr. Bennett, of Serjeants'-inn, appeared for the defendant, and submitted various objections to the rate—that it was excessive, unequal, and not according to the real annual value of the property in the parish. After a long hearing, the magistrates decided that the objections were *bonâ fide*, and that their jurisdiction was at an end. The court was very crowded, and much interest was excited by the case.

**FRAMLINGHAM.**—In this parish the chairman refused to put two amendments for raising money for the repair of the church, &c., by voluntary means, and the rate was carried by a small majority.

**BURYTHORPE.**—A proposal to levy a Church-rate in the parish of Burythorpe, in the East Riding, has been rejected by a large majority; one hand being held up for the rate, and eighteen against it. A poll was demanded by the rector, but afterwards abandoned.

**SEIZING BEDS FOR CHURCH-RATES.**—The following extract from a private letter has been forwarded to us, as an illustration of the system which the Church Defence Associations have been called into existence to defend:—"Mr. Joseph Hulston, a small farmer in the parish of Hagley, the seat of Lord Lyttelton, who is very prominent in Church Defence Associations, and whose brother is the rector, has just had two beds and a table taken from his house for a rate. What makes the thing more cruel is, two children were lying on one of the beds. Mrs. Hulston entreated that the children might not be disturbed, and that something else might be taken, either a cart or a cow, but not the beds. Her entreaties, however, were useless, and the beds, with the table, were carried off to a public-house, where, on the 25th ult., the beds were sold to the landlady, not by auction, nor was any public notice given of the sale, except that on the Sunday the policeman told Hulston the sale would take place to-morrow. These beds were worth about 5*l.*; the landlady bought them for 2*l.* 15*s.* The rate was 15*s.*, and the table and 6*s.* 9*d.* were returned to the man, two of whose children had their bed taken from under them early on the morning of April 19th. Mr. Hulston is a Primitive Methodist, and a local preacher. He is zealously devoted to his Master's work, and before the world blameless."

**CORNWALL.**—There are four adjoining parishes in Cornwall, viz., St. Austell, Mevagissey, St. Ewe, and Gorrana, who all refuse to make a Church-rate. The former two have done so for some years, the latter two have done so this year, notwithstanding the clergymen and the squire.

**IPSWICH.**—At the Police-court of this town on Thursday last, Messrs. Alexanders and Mr. William Cheselden were summoned for non-payment of Church-rates for St. Mary Key parish. The defendants not appearing, payment was ordered.—The Messrs. Wallis were also summoned for non-payment of Church-rates, to the amount of 4*l.* 9*s.* They were defended by Mr. Birkett, who objected to the legality of the rate on the ground that property was not included in the assessment which ought to have been included. The magistrates declared their jurisdiction to be ousted.

**CUCKFIELD, SUSSEX.**—At the vestry-meeting, the rate was opposed by an amendment requesting the churchwardens to obtain the money required in some other way. But the curate who occupied the chair would not put this. The parishioners, we see, are advised that they need not pay.

**CAMBRIDGE.**—In the parish of St. Clement, a Church-rate has been refused by 37 to 29, whereupon the vicar issued a pastoral letter announcing his intention to establish the weekly offertory, as

by their refusing a rate the parishioners had removed the only difficulty he had experienced in its introduction.

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES.**—Distress warrants were levied upon the goods of six members of the Society of Friends in this town, several articles of furniture, sugar, and cheese, being sold by auction in the market on Wednesday afternoon.

**ST. ALBANUM, CORNWALL.**—In this little village a rate of 6*d.* in the pound was asked for the purpose of putting the old parish church in thorough repair by re-roofing, re-flooring, and re-decking it entirely. The vestry meeting at which the proposition was made was a very stormy one. The rate was opposed on the ground that no force ought to be used in obtaining money for religious purposes. The people, it was said, were willing to become subscribers if no rate was made, and even those who had borne the burden of building their own places of worship, who were supporting their own ministers and paying tithes, offered to contribute voluntarily the amount of their rate. This was not accepted, and the rate was defeated by 31 to 19. A poll then took place, and was the occasion of much excitement, at the close of which the vicar announced that the rate was lost by two votes, the numbers being 97 against the rate, and 95 for it. This announcement was received with applause by the anti-Church-rate party. "Several persons affirm," says the *East Cornwall Times*, "that although they have been born and reared in the parish, they cannot remember any former occasion when a question has caused so much excitement and party spirit in the neighbourhood."

**INGLETON, YORKSHIRE.**—A rate in this parish has been carried by 81 to 2, and Mr. J. Carr, in a letter to the *Leeds Mercury*, explains the reason why the minority was so small. He also states some facts relative to landlord coercion which deserve to be remembered in view of any legislative proposition for legalising voluntary rates in rural districts:—

Five separate polls were demanded—first, for one bell; second, that 3*l.* 10*s.* for lighting stoves; third, that 1*l.* 10*s.* for washing surplice, &c.; fourth, that 16*s.* 8*d.* apparitor's fees—be expunged from the estimate; and fifth, that the aggregate of these items be raised by public collections in the church. Mr. Carr tendered his votes in favour of each amendment separately, thinking that the amendments should be decided before the rate of 3*d.* in the pound could be legally dealt with by the ratepayers. The chairman and his clerk refused to adopt this course, and determined to take votes for the amendments in a mass on the rate. Were the polling-book to be examined, I guess that some of the votes would be found bad, for, to my knowledge, one ratepayer gave six votes for an absent gentleman who is not rated for the poor. There is not that almost entire unanimity in favour of Church-rates which the result of the poll would lead parties unacquainted with the matter to believe. A few years ago, at a vestry-meeting, there were about nineteen against a rate and twenty-one for it; and, therefore, it may be interesting to know how this diminution has been effected. This district is almost purely agricultural, and most of the landowners have used undue influence either to make their tenants vote for a rate or to be neutral. One farmer, on the day of levying the last rate, said to one of my family that he had just received a message to attend a vestry-meeting, but he did not know what it was about. When he was told that it was to lay a Church-rate, he said it was hard that he should have to go to vote for a rate when it was not his mind, or words to that effect. This was not the first message that had been sent to him to warn him as to what he might expect if he failed compliance. Some time ago, a respectable farmer seconded almost all my amendments, and even a poll at the vestry, and yet on the day of poll he durst not countenance by his presence what he had done at the first meeting. This farmer rents one of the largest farms in the neighbourhood of a Nonconforming Yorkshire gentleman, who uses no coercion, and also a small farm of a member of the Establishment, who interfered by letter to such an extent that some of the pro-rate party expected him (though disappointed) to vote against his own amendment. Another large farmer, when asked by me after the last vestry-meeting how it was that he could vote for a rate, said,—"You know how it is." This person rents a large farm of a Quaker who allows him to vote as he likes, but because he rents an allotment belonging to an estate for which the incumbent is trustee, he has been fetched more than once to vote for a rate. Another large farmer, who used to be the loudest in condemning Church-rates, now dares neither vote against a rate nor for any amendment to diminish one, because his landlord, who is a clergyman, both verbally and by letter, has put him under his ban. These are but a small sample of the doings to deter many from taking their stand against the impost.

**CHURCH-RATE CELEBRATION AT TAMWORTH.**—Last Thursday the anti-rate party at Tamworth gave a dinner in the Town Hall to Mr. Haskew, the defendant in the late Tamworth Church-rate case, "in honour of the heroic and successful resistance offered by him to illegal and unjust Church-rates." In the circular announcing the dinner, the gentlemen who got it up disclaimed any intention of making anything like a triumph of the matter. A substantial dinner was provided. The chair was occupied by the Rev. T. Burgess, Independent minister; and there were also present Messrs. C. Haskew, Huntsworth, and Lomasury (members of the Romish Church), the Revs. E. J. Travis (United Methodist Free Church), J. Read (Independent), of Atherstone; Mr. George Kearley (deputation from the Liberation Society), and many others. Several animated speeches were delivered; amongst others, by Mr. Burgess, Mr. Haskew, and Mr. Kearley. The chairman said some people thought that in the recent suit they had received pecuniary assistance from the Liberation Society, which was not true. They had received much valuable advice from that society, but it never gave pecuniary aid in such cases. (Hear, hear.) There had been a society formed in

Manchester for the express purpose of affording assistance to those who were opposing Church-rates by legal means. It was intended that some 20,000*l.* or 30,000*l.* should be raised for this purpose, and that branch associations should be formed in all the great centres of population throughout the country. From this society they would be able to gain assistance should the Church people be so mad as to endeavour again to enforce payment of Church-rates in Tamworth. (Cheers.) The rev. gentleman then proceeded to deplore the differences which existed between Church and Dissent in Tamworth, and declared his intention of fighting to the last if his religious freedom was at all interfered with. (Cheers.) At the same time, he hoped the last battle had been fought, for he entertained a very high respect for the Church of England and for many of its members, who were really good and pious men. The toasts were—"Our Hero," "The Defence Society," "Voluntaryism versus Compulsion," "Civil and Religious Liberty," "The Press," &c., all of which was heartily responded to. At the close of the proceedings, a committee was appointed to take steps for indemnifying Mr. Haskew for any loss which he may have sustained in defending the recent suit.

**EXTENSION OF THE CHURCH-RATE WAR.**—The *Liberator* chronicles nearly forty Church-rate contests in the last month. It appears that in many places these contests have taken place for the first time, and the result has been in favour of the voluntary principle. In some other towns peculiar, but not very pleasant, incidents have been introduced, as our own columns have shown. At Dent, near Kendal, three Dissenters have been elected churchwardens. At Buntingford, the vicar and landowners have declared themselves opposed to a compulsory rate. Other towns have for the first time adopted without pressure the voluntary system.

#### THE SCOTCH ECCLESIASTICAL ASSEMBLIES.

The General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland commenced its sittings on Thursday at noon, in the Free Assembly Hall. The hall was crowded in every part. The Rev. Roderick Macleod, the retiring moderator, preached from *Ezra vi. 14*—"And the elders of the Jews builded, and they prospered through the prophesying of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo."

The opening services having been concluded with praise and prayer, Mr. Macleod proposed Principal Fairbairn (of the Glasgow Free Church College), as his successor in the moderator's chair. The motion was unanimously agreed to. The Hon. Principal then delivered an able address, in which he remarked upon the danger of a church settling down in a formal and lifeless orthodoxy, unaccompanied by the life and power of godliness. At the same time he guarded against any undervaluing of Christian doctrine generally, or of the distinctive principles of the Free Church in particular. He pointed to the recent decisions of the Privy Council for the Church of England as affording practical illustration of the dire consequences of the want of Church discipline and a definite creed. He also referred to the agreeable and hopeful nature of the negotiations which, since last assembly, had been carried on with representatives of the United Presbyterian Church. (Applause.)

The result of these negotiations, so far as they have yet proceeded, will in due time be laid before you. But I violate no secret and fear no contradiction when I say the intercourse between the two parties has been conducted with mutual frankness and amity; that the better they have come to know each other's minds, the nearer have they found themselves at one on the great principles of truth and duty, and that whatever may be the issue of the conferences as to their ultimate object, they have already contributed to a better understanding between the two churches and paved the way for a closer fellowship in the future than has existed in the past. (Applause.) If we have not yet the pleasing spectacle of brethren dwelling together in unity, we have at least had that of brethren earnestly seeking after it, and making sensible advances towards it.

The Rev. Principal concluded his address by referring to the plain providential calls to the Free Church and other churches to be active in the work of evangelising the world. Several notices of motion were given, and a committee was chosen to draw up an address to her Majesty on the return of her birthday. An afternoon session was chiefly occupied with devotional exercises.

Sir HENRY MONCREIFF read the report of the committee on overtures, declining to transmit the overture from the Presbytery of Strathgogie anent the circulation of *Good Words*, "inasmuch as it does not implicate the Church, or any member of it, and is therefore not competent." (Applause.)

Dr. CANDLISH submitted for adoption by the Assembly the following resolution:—

It having been stated to the Assembly by the business committee that arrangements had been made by brethren of this Church, in concert with brethren of the United Presbyterian Church and the Reformed Presbyterian Church, for holding a public meeting on the evening of Friday, the 27th inst., the Tercentenary of the death of Calvin, to commemorate the services of the great Reformer, the General Assembly cordially approving of the object, resolve to suspend business for that day and place their hall at the service of the promoters of the contemplated meeting. (Applause.)

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

The General Assembly of the Established Church was also opened on Thursday at Edinburgh by her Majesty's Lord High Commissioner, Lord Belhaven. In the forenoon his grace held the usual *levée* in Holyrood Palace, the Picture-gallery being used as the reception-room. Dr. Pirie, of Aberdeen, was chosen moderator, and after the commissioner had



addressed the Assembly, and promised on behalf of the Queen the usual Royal gifts for promoting education in the Highlands, the moderator replied, and a committee was appointed to answer the Queen's gracious letter. On Friday the Assembly proceeded to business, being occupied chiefly with the claims of India, and the report of the Jewish Mission. In the evening the annual meeting of the association in support of the five original schemes of the Church, was held in the hall, and was numerously attended.

**ENDOWED SCHOOLS.**—The Parliamentary return moved for by Mr. Walter relating to endowed schools receiving grants from the Government in the years 1862 and 1863 shows that in England and Wales more than 1,250 of the schools receiving Government grants stated in their return of income that they had an endowment; so also did seventy-four of the British and Wesleyan, and forty-three of the Roman Catholic schools.

**CHURCH EXTENSION IN LEEDS.**—At a recent meeting in this town it was announced that the handsome sum of 25,000*l.* had been subscribed at a preliminary meeting for the formation of a society for the subdivision of ecclesiastical districts, the appointment of more incumbents, the increase of small stipends, and the building of new churches in Leeds, on condition that 25,000*l.* more was subscribed in the next six months. A committee was appointed to canvass for subscriptions.

**THE REV. DR. GUTHRIE** of Edinburgh, in a circular letter to his congregation, resigns his charge as minister of Free St. John's. His medical advisers, Dr. Begbie, Professor Miller, and Mr. Simpson, have forbidden him ever again to preach or speak in public. If the General Assembly approves of it, he will agree to the desire of his congregation to remain nominally connected with them as their minister, though he does not mean to be burdensome to them, nor to the Aged and Infirm Ministers Fund, so long as he can use his pen.

**RELIGIOUS PROCESSIONS AND FINES.**—The *Confederate*, a journal of the Valais, in Switzerland, publishes the following singular document:—"Grone, May 2, 1864.—The Judge of Grone to N. N., living at that place. Jean Morard, acting in his quality of Procurator of the Church of Grone, calls on you to pay within the legal term the sum of 2*fr.* 25*c.*, which you owe to the said church for absence from five processions in 1863, deducting ninety centimes, received on account. In default of payment a seizure of your property will be made on the 9th of May next, between two and five.—BOVIN, Judge."

**THE REV. O. H. SPURGEON.**—A report has been very extensively circulated that Mr. Spurgeon will shortly leave his church and congregation for several months, to enable him to visit the Holy Land and various other places. On Sunday evening last the rev. gentleman, after alluding to the rumour, in the most unqualified manner contradicted the truth of it. He said that the time would come, perhaps, when he should require two or three months' relaxation, but certainly not this year. His object in thus publicly alluding to the subject just now was, that as there were many visitors to London at this season of the year who came to worship with his people, this announcement would set aside all doubt. He intended to be absent not more than one Sabbath at a time for some time to come.

**MIDDLESEX MAGISTRATES AND ROMISH CHAPLAINS.**—A meeting of the Middlesex magistrates was held on Thursday, Mr. Pownall in the chair. A great deal of business related to the former decision of the magistrates refusing to appoint a Roman Catholic chaplain. Mr. Serjeant Payne called attention to a bill which Sir George Grey had recently introduced into the House of Commons, giving the Home Secretary power to interfere in the internal management of all gaols, and, among other things, to appoint a Roman Catholic chaplain against the will but at the expense of the county. He moved that the magistrates petition against this bill. After some discussion the matter was referred to the Parliamentary committee.

**DEMOLITION OF THE RESIDENCE OF RICHARD BAXTER.**—Among the many houses now undergoing demolition for the purposes of the Metropolitan Meat and Poultry Market, and Metropolitan Railway Extension, is that in which once resided, and where died, the eminent Nonconformist minister, Richard Baxter, on the 8th of December, 1691. The dwelling now in course of demolition has stood for many years, and though it has been frequently repaired, the major portion of it has remained until the present time on the eastern side of Charterhouse-lane, near to the Charterhouse. It is most probable that in the building which stood upon the site now being unbarred, Richard Baxter wrote his well-known work, "The Saint's Everlasting Rest," as well as others of a Nonconformist character, so plentifully distributed during the great revolution.

**PURCHASE OF SLAVES BY MISSION CONVERTS.**—At the recent meeting of the United Presbyterian Synod the subject of slavery in Old Calabar was introduced in an overture presented by Mr. Hutton. It condemned the buying slaves for purposes of labour, as allowed to members of the church in Old Calabar, and prayed the Synod to adopt measures to put a stop to the practice. Dr. Somerville defended the practice of the missionaries by showing that there was no free population in Old Calabar from whom the missionaries themselves, or the members of the church above the rank of day-labourers, could obtain servants. He also showed that the slaves who were purchased were immediately emancipated so far as that was possible in Old Calabar. Mr. Ritchie called in question the fact of their emancipation.

Mr. Bell moved the appointment of a committee to make inquiry and report. Mr. Beckett moved that the explanations of Dr. Somerville were so satisfactory that it was unnecessary to entertain the overture further. On a division, Mr. Beckett's motion was carried by 39 votes against 28.

**WHAT IS THE ESTABLISHMENT NOW?**—If chaos mean mere disorganisation, what better name can it have, so far as doctrines are concerned? But in truth, it does not deserve any name of so much hope. Chaos is the state which precedes cosmical arrangement: the Establishment is the disruption of elements which were once held together by defunct forces. Chaos will come when free thought is in free action; and out of chaos will come order and symmetry. There is something more like Christianity in this same Establishment than a system of abstruse doctrine. There are thousands of pulpits in which far better than nothing is taught to those who have no other teaching. There is in some quarters an active attempt to increase this instruction. But for this, the ruin of the system would soon be complete, and that coming man, the New Zealander, might pack up his pencils and ship himself for England to sketch the ruins of the cathedral.—*Athenæum*.

**THE METHODIST NEW CONNEXION CONFERENCE** was held last week at Ashton-under-Lyne. The proceedings were for the most part merely of denominational interest. The Chapel Fund report exhibited features of hopeful interest in respect to the removal of chapel debts, many successful efforts in that direction having been made of late; while an unusual number of chapels have been, and are being, built, not a few of which are very costly and commodious. Subscriptions to these were reported, which prove the existence of active and large-hearted liberality in the denomination, of which Sheffield presents a conspicuous instance. A lengthy and able discussion has taken place upon the policy to be pursued in promoting connexional extension in the metropolis, on which there was a wide diversity of opinion. At a missionary meeting, presided over by Mark Firth, Esq., the report which was read gave a very cheering account of the mission labours in China and Australia, and showed the increase on the home mission stations to be 141. 1,000*l.* had been expended on the building of mission premises. Amongst the resolutions adopted was the following:—"That, looking at the deplorable moral and religious condition of the majority of the human race, at the facilities now afforded by Divine Providence for the spread of Christian truth, and at the loud calls addressed to us, especially from China and Australia, this meeting deems it to be the imperative duty of the Connexion to send out immediately other agents into these fields; and therefore urges upon our people in general, and upon the rich and commercially prosperous in particular, the necessity of increasing their contributions, so that the funds of the society may not only be equal to its present obligations, but also equal to those enlarged enterprises to which we are pledged, and which ought not to be any longer delayed." 250*l.* was collected. Much time was devoted to a consideration of the religious condition of the body, and various suggestions were presented with a view to secure prosperity and extension. The mission interests under the direction of the Rev. Samuel Hulme engaged attention. Plans introduced by the committee for the better adjustment of the home and foreign departments became the subject of lively debate. Mark Firth, Esq., read the financial statement, reporting among other items a contribution from Sunday-schools of 600*l.* and upwards towards a new chapel in Australia. The public services of Sunday in the Conference Chapel were conducted by the Revs. J. Stacey, H. Figgis, F. D. Crothers, J. Henshaw, P. F. Gilton, and W. Baggaly. Outdoor preaching was assigned to the Revs. F. Guttridge and R. C. Turner. The assembly expects to close its sessions about the middle of this week.

### Religious Intelligence.

#### NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, LOWER CLAPTON.

The handsome new edifice, erected for the use of the church and congregation under the pastoral care of the Rev. Frank Soden, lately occupying the Pembury-grove Chapel, was opened for Divine worship on Tuesday last. The services were attended by large congregations of ladies and gentlemen, and the building was the theme of their general admiration. The style adopted by the architect, Mr. Henry Fuller, of Finsbury-place, is the Gothic, treated in the peculiar manner induced by a study of continental examples. The site obtained, affording an unusual opportunity for allowing the building to be well seen, being at the exact point where five roads converge, the committee felt it to be incumbent upon them to put up a church that should at once meet the wants of the neighbourhood—filled or filling, in all directions, with the residences of the upper middle class of society—and be a credit to the denomination. For these reasons they selected Mr. Fuller's design. The structure, as we have said, substantially built of stone, will accommodate 1,000 adults, and there is also included a school-room sufficiently large for 400 children, besides several class-rooms and two vestries. There is, moreover, at the south-east corner of the church a very ornate spire, 130 feet high, of Portland stone. The cost of the whole building, exclusive of land and the architect's charges, has been 9,000*l.*, or, including these, 10,198*l.*; the particulars of which will be

found in the treasurer's statement at the meeting reported below.

The Rev. T. Binney preached the first sermon at noon on Tuesday, and the Rev. S. Martin occupied the pulpit in the evening.

Between the services in the church, dinner was served in the new school-room—decorated with beautiful flowers from the private conservatory of Mr. Johnson—and tea in the old chapel, Pembury-grove. S. Morley, Esq., presided, and a very large number of well-known ministers and laymen were present. There was no toast-drinking, but the chairman said it would be a pleasurable duty to give expression to their sentiments of loyalty towards her Majesty. Several verses of the National Anthem were sung with great spirit by the company, standing. The Rev. H. Allon considered this to be an occasion for simple congratulation, and was sure that all present joined with Mr. Morley in tendering expressions of hearty sympathy to Mr. Soden and his church because of the accomplishment of their great work, and in the name of the meeting thanked Mr. Binney for his noble discourse. The Rev. T. Aveling also expressed his congratulation and thanks to Mr. Binney, who briefly responded to the kind expression of feeling, and spoke of the building as a beautiful structure. Unquestionably there might have been two plain meeting-houses built for the money spent on this one; but then it should be remembered, that there were a mass of people prepared to come into this who would never enter a plain one. (Cheers.) There was a place for the plain meeting-house, and there was also a place for a building like this. He felt thankful to God for what had been done, and assured Mr. Soden of his sympathy and brotherly regard. Having read his sermon that morning he could not tell the capabilities of the building for free speech, which should always be the customary method of preaching, and he must therefore come and occupy the pulpit upon some ordinary occasion. (Loud cheers.)

The Rev. Frank Soden, who was greeted with repeated rounds of applause, explained the circumstances under which the chapel originated, and the difficulties they had to contend with in connection with Pembury-grove and the new building. When he came to Pembury-grove there was a debt of 1,300*l.*, which in three years was discharged. In 1861 they determined to build a new chapel. The Rev. John Ross had been amongst them, and having adopted his plan of the weekly offering, they resolved that for five years they would devote a certain portion of that sacred store to the building fund. The first friend outside the church itself, who rendered efficient service was Mr. John Morley, the respected brother of the chairman—(cheers)—who promised a donation of 250*l.* Then the Chapel-building Society agreed to give 300*l.*, and to advance a loan of 700*l.* With these sums it was found that the amount at command would be 5,000*l.*; and the then estimated outlay was 6,000*l.* There seemed to be no good reason, therefore, for not beginning the work. Several admirable designs were sent in to the committee, in reply to their advertisement; and the one unanimously selected was by Mr. Henry Fuller, of Manchester, and now of Finsbury-place, London. The estimated cost of the design was not kept to by the committee. Just to explain the process by which it was departed from, he would state that the first trouble, and it proved a serious one, was with the foundation. Presently they came to feel that having such a splendid elevation they would be alike wanting to themselves and to the denomination if they did not take full advantage of it. (Cheers.) As they had found their architect to be a gentleman upon whose estimates they could most confidently rely, and that the contractors, Messrs. Browne and Robinson, were thoroughly trustworthy—their estimates were a hundred pounds within the estimates of the architects—they set out upon a course which the prudent gentlemen of the Chapel-building Society did not entirely perhaps approve. But assuredly those who had been engaged in it had now nothing to regret. (Cheers.) He wished to take that opportunity of expressing his deep obligations to his neighbouring brethren in the ministry, especially to Mr. Aveling and Mr. Dukes, who had from the first treated him with the utmost kindness, and proved themselves earnest and staunch friends. (Cheers.) To the chairman, Mr. Morley, also, as well as to his brother, he and his associates in this work were under lasting obligations. A multitude of affectionate letters had been received from friends of various churches, including the Gravel-pit, and such a one as only Mr. Henry Rutt could write. Again thanking all his friends and helpers, Mr. Soden resumed his seat amidst hearty cheers.

The CHAIRMAN must confess that he was a utilitarian in matters of this sort, and would rather see the erection of many plain places of worship than a few elegant ones; but still he felt the force of the argument in respect of the present site, and was the more prepared to help in this work because he knew that it was not intended by those concerned in it now to take their ease, but to make it centre of active influence. He was, therefore, prepared to say now that he would give 500*l.* towards reducing the remaining debt, on condition that another 500*l.* was at once raised. (Cheers.)

Mr. WILLIAMS, treasurer, stated that the cost of the new building, including the school-room, was 8,600*l.* The freehold of the ground and the associated expenses amounted to 1,538*l.*, making a total of 10,138*l.* To meet this there was the grant of the Chapel-building Society, 300*l.*, and their loan of 700*l.*—which was placed as an asset, because there were five years to pay it in—Mr. John Morley 250*l.*; Mr. Samuel Morley 250*l.*; the proceeds of the fancy



sale, 478*l.*; sundry amounts received or promised, 2,624*l.*; a special effort amongst the members of the church last week, 1,805*l.*; from the Sunday-school teachers, 25*l.*; and sale of the old chapel, which had been bought by Mr. Frank Cuthbertson, 950*l.*; making a total of 7,383*l.*, leaving a debt of only 2,848*l.*. The morning's collection realised 41*l.* 10*s.*; and quite unexpectedly the teachers of the King Edward-street Ragged-school, with which he (Mr. Williams) had been long connected, had sent a donation of 5*l.*

Several sums were immediately announced from gentlemen responding to Mr. Morley's challenge, including Mr. Meadows, 10*l.*; Mr. James Carter, 20*l.*; Mr. W. Spicer, 25*l.*; and at the close of the meeting it was reported that 457*l.* had been obtained towards the required 500*l.*

To return to the order of the proceedings, Mr. C. E. MUDIE expressed his gratification with the strength and beauty combined in the new structure. Mr. W. SPICER said he agreed with Mr. Morley in opinion that it would not do to spend 10,000*l.* upon every place of worship, but that the site of this building justified what had been done in the present instance. The Rev. C. DUKES believed that in the course of eighteen months the church would receive a larger accession of members than during its entire previous history. The Rev. JOHN KENNEDY had thought that his people had surpassed all others in liberality and zeal when recently engaged in chapel-building work; but he was now satisfied that, considering their numbers, they had been surpassed by Mr. Soden and his friends. He had intended to make a contribution of 2*l.* to the collection, but thought he might venture to promise 10*l.* for himself and his congregation. He had found it to be a decided mistake to suppose that poor people would not come to a handsome place of worship.

The proceedings then closed with the doxology and the benediction.

**REGENT'S-PARK COLLEGE.**—The annual soirée of the students of the five London colleges was held at this college on Thursday, May 20th. A cricket-match was played during the day between New College and Regent's-park v. Cheshunt and Hackney Colleges. The meeting in the evening was presided over by Mr. Whitaker, the senior student of Regent's-park College. After a hymn, Mr. Edwin Johnson, B.A., of New College, engaged in prayer. Papers were read on the following subjects:—"The position of ministers in regard to modern speculation in relation to theology," by Mr. E. Jones, of New College; "The position of ministers and churches with regard to public religious societies," by Mr. Goodrich, of Hackney College; "The position of ministers with regard to political questions," written by Mr. Calhoun, and in his absence read by Mr. Croft, of Cheshunt College; "The position of ministers with regard to amusements, public and social," by Mr. W. Page, B.A., of Regent's-park College. An animated discussion took place on these subjects, and the meeting closed at half-past nine with the doxology and prayer. Supper was served in the dining-room, and the proceedings terminated with singing "Auld lang syne" and the National Anthem. The Presbyterians of Queen's-square College had promised a paper, but as no representative from their college was present, it had to be omitted.

**NEW COLLEGE REUNION.**—The annual meeting of the old and the present students, was held at the college on the 12th inst., the attendance of both being larger than on any previous occasion. After a cold collation, with its attendant toasts, expressive of loyalty and *esprit de corps*, the time was spent in free social intercourse, reviving the memory of old college friendships, till tea was served in the common room. At eight a meeting was held in the library, when speeches were delivered on subjects connected with collegiate and ministerial work, and much fraternal feeling was manifested. The chair was filled by the Rev. J. Radford Thomson, M.A., and the vice-chair by Mr. John Emmett Jones. All connected with this reunion are gratified to find that it is most valuable in promoting and cherishing brotherly feeling, and is increasingly esteemed as an opportunity of evincing and deepening the students' attachment to their *Alma Mater*.

**HACKNEY COLLEGE.**—On Wednesday, May 11th, a reunion dinner of the former and present students of Hackney College was held at the Bridge House Hotel, London-bridge. Twenty-five sat down to table, the Rev. G. Martin being chairman, and the senior student, Mr. Philips, vice-chairman. After the cloth was removed the rev. chairman made a brief but excellent speech, and was followed by the Revs. A. Mackenall, B.A., G. Kettle, R. W. Carpenter, H. Sturt, J. Hall, J. A. T. Skinner, B.A., and others. All expressed their gratification at having this opportunity of greeting the students, and wishing well to their *Alma Mater*. A hope was unanimously expressed that this meeting might be repeated every year.

**CHESHUNT COLLEGE.**—Mr. Samuel Parkinson, of Cheshunt College, accepted in October last a unanimous invitation to become pastor of the church assembling in George-street Chapel, Croydon. Mr. Parkinson will enter upon his stated labour in August next.—Mr. George E. Singleton, also of Cheshunt College, has consented, at the unanimous request of the church and congregation, to become successor to the Rev. Cornelius Barry, at Hatfield Heath, Essex.

**YORKSHIRE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meetings of this society were held at Sheffield, during the past week. On Thursday the reports of the various committees were received. Resolutions were passed on the wars now waged on the continent and in America, approving of the successful endeavours of

the Government in maintaining neutrality, rejoicing in the armistice in the one case, and in the prospect of the abolition of American slavery in the other. A petition to Parliament was adopted against the bill of the Attorney-General, the effect of which would be to confirm and perpetuate the levying of Church-rates in district churches of the Establishment, contrary to the understanding heretofore existing in the Legislature. A resolution was also passed affirming that the recent judgment of the highest ecclesiastical court in these realms proves more decisively than ever the utter failure of the Establishment as a guardian and exponent of religious truth, and calling on the free churches of the country to maintain their testimony to evangelical doctrine, and to the supreme and exclusive authority of the Word of God. The Rev. J. G. Oncken, of Hamburg, the father of the great Baptist and Evangelical movement in Germany, Russia, Poland, &c., attended and addressed the assembly, and received an enthusiastic welcome. It was resolved that an autumnal meeting for prayer and conference be held this year at Driffield. The Rev. J. P. Chown, of Bradford, was appointed to write the circular letter for next year, on "Domestic Piety." The Revs. Chas. Larom, of Sheffield, and D. Crumpton, of Salendine Nook, were appointed the preachers at the next association. The cordial thanks of the meeting were tendered to the pastor and friends at Portmahon, and other friends in Sheffield for their arrangements and hospitality for and during the meetings of the association. The services concluded with a sermon in Townhead-street Chapel, by the Rev. W. Best, B.A., of Leeds, from 1 Cor. ii. 2.—"I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified."

**THE BAPTIST COLLEGE, PONTYPOOL.**—The annual meetings of this institution were held on Tuesday and Wednesday last. On this as on former occasions there were many visitors from various parts of Monmouthshire and the eastern parts of Glamorgan, who manifested the liveliest interest in the institution and the meetings. This college was formerly at Abergavenny, and was removed to Pontypool in 1836, and has ever since been under the fostering care and able superintendence of Dr. Thomas and his respected colleague, the Rev. G. Thomas, M.A. About a hundred and fifty young men have been educated in this institution since it was established at Abergavenny, and there are some of its students at the present time in every clime. The building in which the institution is kept has been enlarged twice; the cost of the whole was not under 2,500*l.*, and all has been paid by the liberality of the Christian public. Divine Providence has graciously spared the life of both tutors, so that there has been no change of preceptors since the establishment of the institution at Pontypool. The number of students vary according to circumstances. They have been as many as thirty-six or thirty-seven; they are at present twenty-five, with a great number of candidates pressing for admission. The institution has been already a great blessing, to Wales in particular, and is now strong and powerful. The examination of the students took place at the college on Tuesday. The examiners were: in theology, the Rev. J. Rowlands, Cwmavon; in the classics, the Rev. J. Bullock, M.A., of Abergavenny; in Hebrew, the Rev. D. Morgan, of Blaenafon. The examination passed off well, the young men acquitting themselves in a manner worthy the advantages of the college and the labours of the respected tutors. In the afternoon, Mr. D. H. Davies, one of the students, read an able essay, in the college, on the "Genius and Writings of Bunyan." In the evening there was a Welsh service at Crane-street Chapel. The Rev. D. Davies, Newport, read and prayed. Mr. D. George read an interesting paper on the Canon of the New Testament, and the Rev. H. Williams, Amlwch, preached a telling sermon to the young men, from 1 Thess. ii. 11. On Wednesday morning, after reading and prayer by the Rev. T. Evans, Delhi, the Rev. W. Brook, D.D., preached, from Zech. iv. 6, a most able sermon to the young men. In the public meeting held after the morning service a resolution was adopted embodying a request to Dr. Brook to publish his sermon. A lecture on "The Imperishableness of Christianity" was delivered in the evening by Dr. Brook, and attracted a crowded audience and gave great satisfaction.

**THE NORTHERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.**—The annual services of the above association were held on Monday and Tuesday, May the 16th and 17th, at Middleton-in-Teesdale. On Monday morning, at eleven o'clock, a prayer-meeting was conducted. At half-past two the letters from the churches were read: from these it appeared that the increase of members was less during the past year than for the last three or four years. In the evening, at half-past six, the association sermon was preached by the Rev. P. W. Grant, of Darlington, from Dan. vii. 18. At seven o'clock on Tuesday morning the brethren again assembled for prayer. At ten the Rev. J. D. Carrick, of North Shields, preached from 1 Cor. ix. 27. At the close of the sermon, the Rev. W. Walters, of Newcastle, read the circular letter he had been requested to write on "The relation of the Sunday-school to the church." In the afternoon, at two, the ministers and messengers met for business, the Rev. J. D. Carrick acting as moderator. The Rev. W. Walters was requested to continue his services as secretary. Resolutions were adopted, thanking Messrs. Grant and Carrick for their excellent sermons, and Mr. Walters for his letter, and wishing him to allow it to be printed (both with and without the minutes of the association) for circulation among the churches; fixing the next association at Hartlepool, and appointing the Rev. W. Fawcett to write the

circular letter on "The importance and best methods of securing the conversion of the young people in our congregations, especially such as are the children of godly parents"; commending the Rev. G. Whitehead, who has recently left the district, to the confidence and esteem of his new friends, expressing satisfaction with the efforts of the Baptist Union to promote a more hearty co-operation among Baptist churches; appointing an autumnal meeting of the association to be held at Newcastle; rejoicing in the labours and success of the German Baptist Mission; recommending the Baptist Building Fund to the support of the churches; urging increased efforts in aid of the Baptist Foreign Missionary Society; impressing on the attention of the churches the importance of purchasing and reading our denominational literature; commending the case of the new chapel at Middlesbrough to the sympathy and liberality of those whose pecuniary aid might be sought; setting apart the second Sabbath in June, and the following days, as days of humiliation and prayer throughout the association, on account of the low state of religion in the churches; and thanking the moderator for his conduct in the chair, and the friends at Middleton for their Christian hospitality. At half-past six p.m., the annual meeting of the Northern Auxiliary to the Baptist Home Missionary Society was held. R. W. Bainbridge, Esq., of Middleton House, presided. The Rev. T. H. Pattison offered prayer. After the chairman had addressed the meeting, the secretary, the Rev. W. Walters, presented the annual report; and in the absence of the treasurer read also his account. The meeting was then addressed by the Revs. J. H. Lummis, W. Bontems, G. V. Barker, W. Fawcett, and W. M'Phail; and Messrs. Peachey and H. Angus. The Rev. W. Fawcett closed the service with the benediction.

**COGGESHALL.**—Mr. A. D. Philips, of Hackney College, has accepted the pastorate of the Independent church, Coggeshall, Essex.

**SCARBOROUGH.**—The Rev. Richard Bayly, Baptist minister, formerly of Newark, has been formally recognised [as the pastor of the Baptist church at Scarborough, assembling in Ebenezer Chapel, the pastorate of which was resigned some time ago by the Rev. B. Evans.

**PORTLAND, DORSET.**—A social meeting was held on Wednesday, the 4th inst., in the new Congregational church of this place, to welcome the Rev. T. G. Beveridge as the pastor, and to remove a debt upon the organ of the church. Trays were given by ladies of the congregation. About 200 people sat down to tea, and a much larger number were present during the evening. Addresses suitable to the occasion were delivered by the pastor, the Revs. H. Smith, R. S. Ashton, B.A., and W. Lewis, of Weymouth; the Revs. J. Rought, J. Bryant, W. Beer, and N. Kelyanack, of Portland; and the Rev. T. Sissons, of Hackney College, London. The sum of 15*l.* was collected, which entirely removed the debt, and left a balance on hand. There is a large debt remaining upon the building, references to which were made by the speakers; and the meeting signified a full determination to make a vigorous effort for its removal.

**CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, BRIGG, LINCOLNSHIRE.**—On Tuesday, the 16th, the foundation-stone of new school and class-rooms, designed to commemorate the jubilee of the opening of the chapel, was laid by A. M. Serjeant, Esq., the senior deacon of the church, and the superintendent of the Sabbath-school. The former rooms were found much too small to meet the growing wants of the school, and an enlarged suite of rooms was considered an appropriate memorial, and a suitable thank-offering to God for sustaining the cause during a period of fifty years. The pastor, the Rev. A. L. Mitchell, presided. A hymn having been sung, the Rev. J. Rowe, of Wrawby, offered a suitable prayer, and Mr. Serjeant delivered a telling address. A liberal sum in aid of the building fund was laid upon the stone by the children of the Sabbath-school, teachers, and members of the church and congregation. After the conclusion of the ceremony the assembly adjourned to the chapel, and an interesting meeting was held, and addressed by the friends who took part in laying the foundation-stone.

**WINSLOW, BUCKS.**—The foundation of a new Baptist Tabernacle was laid in this village a few days ago. A large and commodious tent was erected in the chapel grounds, in which the service was held. The Rev. C. H. Spurgeon preached on the occasion from the Romans i. 16—"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." At half-past one o'clock a cold collation was provided at the Bell Assembly Room, of which about sixty persons partook. At a quarter-past three the tent was crowded. After devotions by the Revs. E. L. Foster, M.A., of Stony Stratford, and C. H. Spurgeon, a bottle containing newspapers, and a statement relative to the chapel was deposited under the foundation-stone, which was then duly laid by Henry Kelsall, Esq., of Rochdale, who gave a short address. Addresses were also delivered by J. Olney, Esq., of London, the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, and by the Rev. H. Killen, of Bedford. At five o'clock about 400 persons took tea in the Bell Assembly Room. In the evening the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon preached from Mark vii. 32-37, to about 2,000 persons. About 100*l.* has been already promised towards the Tabernacle fund.

**MINISTERIAL JUBILEE.**—The fiftieth anniversary of the settlement of the Rev. John Adams at Redhill Independent Chapel, Sandon, Herts, was celebrated on Tuesday, April 26. Mr. Adams, though but little



known at a distance, is deservedly held in great respect by ministerial brethren, and all who know him intimately. Hence, on the occasion of his jubilee celebration, there was a large gathering of some of the leading members of the neighbouring congregations, represented by the following ministers, viz.:—Revs. J. Medway and H. Martin, of Royston; A. C. Wright, of Melbourne; F. A. Bennett, of Foulburn; J. Harrison, of Bassingbourne; J. Stockbridge, of Morden; J. B. Millom, of Ashwell; C. S. Perry, of Baldock; W. Griffith, of Hitchin; E. J. Bower, of Buntingford; J. Park, of Redhill; and D. Davis, B.A., of Thetford. Tea was provided at the chapel at 5 p.m., after which the proceedings of the evening commenced by singing. The Rev. J. Medway then read a short passage of Scripture, and offered up an appropriate prayer. The Rev. A. C. Wright then read an address to Mr. Adams, prepared at the request of the members of the Royston Fraternal Association, setting forth the high esteem in which he was held by his brethren, on account of the integrity and benevolence of his private life, and of his long, faithful, and consistent service in the cause of truth and righteousness as a Nonconformist minister in that neighbourhood (where the Gospel was preached and a Congregational church founded by one of the ejected ministers). After which, Mr. Wright presented Mr. Adams, in the name of all his brethren, and a long list of other friends, with a purse containing upwards of forty guineas; part of which was obtained and forwarded by the Rev. T. Binney, of London, who wrote in terms of great respect for Mr. Adams. The Rev. D. Davis then presented Mr. Adams, in the name of the young people of his congregation, with a handsome walking-stick, silver-mounted, and bearing a suitable inscription. The aged pastor, though present, felt himself unable to give anything like adequate expression, either to God for the grace that had sustained him for so long, or to his brethren and friends for their presence and sympathy, and the substantial tokens of their goodwill; he had, therefore, requested the Rev. W. Griffith, of Hitchin, to perform this kind office for him, which he accordingly did by reading a written address. Two or three other brethren offered their personal congratulations, and commended the cause to the cordial support of the people, under the new pastor, the Rev. J. Park, who concluded with prayer.

### Correspondence.

#### THE DEMAND FOR MORE CHURCH-RATES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—The Secretary of the Committee of Laymen has unwittingly done a great service to those who wish, by means of a clause in the Church-building Acts Consolidation Bill, to prevent the levying of Church-rates in new parishes.

In a letter addressed to two of the daily journals, he says "there must be no mincing the matter." The Church wants more money, and she must have it. It is "perfectly just" that Churchmen should build as many churches as they please, and then throw the burden of supporting them on the ratepayers. "The charge for services expenses in these parishes amounts frequently—inclusive of lighting, warming, and officers—to some 30%, 40%, and 50% per annum," and as "the incumbent has in too many instances largely to bear the expenses of Divine worship out of his scant income," that which is not supplied by the shabby worshippers must be supplied by means of taxation. So sixteen hundred additional churches must now be repaired, cleansed, warmed, and lighted by those who were simple-minded enough to believe that church extension was to be carried on by voluntary means alone. Sixteen hundred more clerks, organists, beadles, and bellringers are to be added to the army of functionaries already salaried by the public, and sixteen hundred additional items for surplice-washing and bread and wine are to be wrangled over in the vestry, voted upon at the poll, and litigated in the law court!

And this audacious demand is to be urged on the same grounds as the retention of Church-rates in the ancient parishes. Not only is it the cause of "self-government" which is involved: the very existence of the Establishment is at stake. "An arrest of the parochial system can mean nothing else than the ultimate abandonment of an Establishment in this country." "The question, stripped of all disguise or mistake, clearly is, whether the Church as by law established shall continue." "Let the issue be clearly understood whether or no the Established Church shall remain in its relation to the State, or whether her Majesty's Government is to abandon the ancient constitution of the country"; and let "no member of the House of Commons who values the Church" be absent from the division on the Attorney-General's bill.

Abolitionists cannot be too thankful to Mr. Knott and his friends for thus stripping of "all disguise and mistake," the character of the opposition which will be made by the Tory party to any attempt to keep Parliament to its pledges. Liberal members will see, if they have not seen before, that unless a firm stand is now made against the extension of taxation for ecclesiastical purposes, there will be no limits to the rapacity of the Establishment. This horse-leech cry is, therefore, most opportunely raised.

It may be asked if Mr. Knott altogether ignores the

understanding on which the Church-building Acts were passed? He does worse than ignore it, for he attempts to dispose of the assurances of the author of the Marquis of Blandford's Act, and of the Home Secretary in 1856, by declaring that "it is puerile to argue that the conversations that take place in a committee on a bill can, or ought, to govern or modify the sections of an Act of Parliament, the clauses of which have been deliberately considered and passed by both Houses." In respect to the judicial construction of a statute that may be true, but the question now to be decided is, shall Parliament now re-enact that which has been construed to mean the very opposite of that which Parliament intended? Until the public hear it from their own lips, it will not believe that the Duke of Marlborough or Sir George Grey treat as "puerile" an attempt to hold them to averments, in faith of which the House of Commons acted, and the country assented to its legislation.

The *Morning Herald*—one of the journals in which Mr. Knott writes—suggests that the Home Secretary never meant to say what he is supposed to have said; for, in reply to his statement that the Marquis of Blandford "did not ask for any money for the public, nor to create a power to deal with any property not the property of the Church" it has the hardihood to ask:—

And is not that statement literally true? Are not Church-rates the property of the Church, so far as they are property? Are they public money, or deemed such by any persons except the Liberation Society? Suppose, then, that Lord Blandford's Act did provide for the repairing of district churches, when separated, out of Church-rates, that was only a transfer of the amount from the mother church to the district church—a transfer, not of public money, but of property belonging to the Church.

So that the Marquis and the Baronet, according to this exponent of their acts, lulled the opponents of Church-rates into a false sense of security by a miserable piece of equivocation; while the writer not only absurdly describes Church-rates as "property belonging to the Church," but still more absurdly speaks of additional rates—which have not yet come into existence—as simply "a transfer of the amount from the mother church to the district church!"

In further proof that the abolitionists have been living in a fool's paradise, from which they may now be driven, Mr. Knott undertakes to show that there has been a great "misconception" as to both the intentions and the declarations of Sir Robert Peel in 1828, and that it is evident he was "silent specifically in respect to Church-rates."

That there has been misconception as to what actually transpired in 1828, I admit; but the facts as they really occurred are far more important, in their bearing upon the Attorney-General's Bill, than has hitherto been supposed.

In that year (May 22), Sir Robert Peel brought in a Bill for the Abolition of Church Briefs, and in his speech on the occasion, after describing the operations of the Church-building Society, said he proposed to bring in a bill for the incorporation of that society, and added, "Without devolving upon this society the power of imposing Church-rates upon any parish, he proposed to incorporate them, to enable them to receive voluntary contributions for the rebuilding and repairing of churches and chapels, to receive the sums left by bequest for that purpose, and the sums raised under the letters patent, authorising voluntary contributions for that object."

That bill, evidently, was not regarded as one calculated to extend Church-rates, and it passed without opposition and with but little remark. But a much more important event followed a month later. Sir Robert Peel brought in a bill for facilitating the erection of additional churches, and that bill was strenuously opposed. There was an important debate on the second reading (June 30, 1828), and, though it is much abridged in *Hansard*, there is a full report in the *Times* of the day following. The same objections were urged against the bill, as are urged against Sir Roundell Palmer's bill now. Mr. Wood said that when the vote of a million for the erection of new churches was granted, it was stated that no additional expense would fall on the parishes; but that, after a million and a half had been expended on church-building, "a scandalous breach of faith was about to be committed," by the proposal to levy rates for the new churches. It was then insisted, as it is now, that the Church should be supported by the contributions of the opulent, and not by compulsory levies on the poor, and it was then declared, as it is now, that Dissenters, in resisting the bill, were desirous of "weakening the Established Church."

What was the reply of Sir Robert Peel—then Chancellor of the Exchequer? He declared that his bill had been misunderstood. It had been described as imposing a tax, but the fact was that it laid no additional burden on the public. With respect to the clause authorising money to be raised for "ecclesiastical purposes," he denied that it gave more power than was previously in existence, and asserted that under the bill there would be no increased rates.

Let Sir Roundell Palmer and the whole Liberal party mark what followed. The Abolitionists of that day would not accept these assurances of Sir Robert Peel. They would not run any risk of having more rates fastened upon them by judicial constructions of ambiguously-framed statutes. Their representatives in the House were few in number, (about thirty) but they

were resolute, and moved amendment after amendment, and adjournment after adjournment, to prevent the passing of the bill. AND THEY SUCCEEDED! On the 8th of July Sir Robert Peel abandoned the measure, declaring that he was compelled to do so by the opposition which it encountered, and the next morning the *Times* commented on the event in terms as applicable to the year 1864 as to the year 1828:—

The bill for building and repairing churches was, we think prudently, withdrawn last night. As it is impossible to force religion upon men's minds, so neither, we think, should they be constrained to supply the means which religion requires for the proper discharge of its ceremonies. The parishes in which it is generally wished, or in which the necessity is felt for supplying an additional church or chapel, are at full liberty to undertake this at their own expense.

Clearly, if Sir Robert Peel was, as Mr. Knott asserts, "silent specifically in respect to Church-rates," there was no silence on the part of the opponents of the exaction. And does not the record of their proceedings emphatically speak to the abolitionists of to-day? The volunteers of 1828 took effectual means for preventing the extension of Church-rates in their day. The volunteers of 1856 accepted from the Marquis of Blandford and Sir George Grey assurances which it is now declared are without the slightest weight, and to which it is puerile to refer. The moral is obvious. We are now plainly told that the existing law must be maintained because it extends Church-rates. Then the law must not be re-enacted. If we were deluded in 1856, we must atone for our negligence by vigilance and resoluteness in 1864. We now know what is at stake, and it will be strange indeed if we allow ourselves to be either ridden over or ensnared.

Your obedient Servant,

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS.

London, May 23.

#### THE COMING GENERAL ELECTION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—I trouble you with this brief line to express my approbation of the model "letter-writer" for Dissenting voters, contained in a modest corner of your last impression. It is the right thing to do—manly, courteous, explicit, and straightforward. If we had a few dozen of that stamp in every constituency in the country, it would be well; and we have. Would that they were as earnest as the author of that epistle. I should like to know if the candidate for Parliamentary honours was "equal to the occasion" in his reply. Could you not, Mr. Editor, give us other specimens of similar correspondence, in more conspicuous type and place in your journal?

I am, Sir, yours truly,

ONE WHO HAS DONE LIKEWISE.

May 24th, 1864.

[We shall be happy to insert more of such excellent letters as that to which our correspondent alludes; still more to learn that "D. L. B.'s" example has been extensively followed. The correspondence was placed in "a modest corner," solely owing to the exigencies of "making up."—ED. NONCON.]

#### AN EX-INCUMBENT ON THE STATE-CHURCH.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—On reading the letter of an "Ex-Incumbent" there are several points which strike the mind as worthy of notice.

One is pleased to find another clergyman boldly declaring himself as conscientiously objecting to the present system of formularies and subscriptions, and having given such proofs of his sincerity as to refuse the emoluments of his Church.

In his criticism of the Liberation Society he appears to have taken a very low view of the purposes of that organization. Our purpose is not to "liberate from support" (where does the "Ex-Incumbent" get this phrase from?) but to "liberate from State patronage and control." It is true that if the State is to be deprived of its "patronage" and "control" in the Church, the support must be also given up. So much the better. The great object of our society is to increase the spirituality of religion by removing all secular hindrances to its progress, and in such a category do we place Government interference and aid. With regard to private endowments, I believe the society has ever disclaimed any intention of interfering with such arrangements; but the tithe question is a very different matter. For my own part I should urge the "redistribution" of "so-called" Church property, and let the whole nation derive the benefit which those who established tithes intended. As a believer in voluntarism, I would at once urge that this property should not be applied to the endowment of any sect whatever; let it be used for national purposes only. But some will say, What is the Church of England to do if she is deprived of such a large revenue? I would reply that her adherents, if they have the love for her which they profess, will soon make up by voluntary subscriptions whatever she may lose; as a proof of this I would remind your readers of a statement recently made by Mr. Gladstone. Speaking at one of the May meetings, he said that several years since four-fifths of the income of the society, whose anniversary was then being held, was at that time contributed by Government; but owing to certain circumstances this aid was withdrawn. What was the result? Thrown upon the voluntary principle for support, the income of the society in a very few years rose from 18,000*l.*, its revenue when it received Government aid, to upwards of 60,000*l.*, when trusting to voluntary contributions. I urge this view of the matter because the "Ex-Incumbent" does not all through his letter hint any disapproval of a State-Church. He seems to overlook this, the stumbling-block in the way of great progress in spiritual religion.

He concludes his letter with a suggestion which shows his State-Church education. There appears in the last paragraph just a peep as it were of the old dream of uniformity, the true theory of State-Churchism. Some "more excellent way" is to be found by which Nonconformists are to give up their objections to a State-



governed Church; they are to ignore their disapproval of a State-appointed hierarchy; their chapels are to become united to the Church of England; and of course their ministry will no longer be chosen by the laity, but will be sent down to them by the powers that be. All "orthodox" Nonconformists are to enter the pale of the Establishment. By what standard is the orthodoxy of any sect to be judged? Are the archbishops, bishops, priests, and deacons, to form the tribunal? I trust not. Indeed, we value too highly the precious right of private judgment, ever to give such power into the hands of any authorities to come between us and our God in any matter connected with religion. No; Churchmen must give up this hankering after uniformity, and be content with union—the spirit the same, but the utterance different.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

CHELMER.

Chelmsford, May 19, 1864.

#### LITERARY MATTER AND THE BOOK-POST.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—As many persons, especially those connected with the publishing trade, are in the habit of forwarding "literary matter" by book-post, it is of great importance that it should be clearly understood what definition the Post-office authorities give to that term. Without presuming to act as the exponent of the official mind, permit me to furnish one illustration of what is not looked upon as literary matter at St. Martin's-le-Grand. A few days since a packet was forwarded by book-post to the editor of the *Gardener's Weekly Magazine*, consisting of various contributions to its columns, and amongst these were four or five communications from correspondents, intended to be printed in full, or answered in the magazine. If such communications, addressed to the editor strictly in his editorial capacity, are not literary matter, it is somewhat difficult to know what is. They were, however, taken out of the packet, and forwarded as ordinary letters, being charged at letter-rate. The subject having been brought before the Post-office authorities, the reply received is, that the communications in question are original letters, and "cannot be posted as forming part of a book packet."

I am, &c.,

H. C. W.

#### RELIGION IN ESSEX.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—*"Essex"* quotes my remarks—or nearly so—made at Woodford, when I stated that there were nearly fifty parishes within about fourteen miles of my residence, in which the Gospel was not preached. I have no objection whatever to his letter thus far, but must decline to name them, just because I wish to refer him to authorities which he will evidently think more trustworthy.

That he may form his own opinion as to who in Essex does, and who does not, preach the Gospel, I beg that he will read up the religious and politico-religious works and periodical publications of the *High Church*, the *Low Church*, the *Broad Church*, and the many shades of opinion included in each; let him make inquiry among that body of the clergy whose sympathies are evidently with Rome, and who are styled by the Roman Catholics the pioneers of their Church; let him then ascertain the opinions of that large class who, waiting on the Lord Chancellor, or watching the sales of advowsons at Garraway's, are looking out for economically advantageous livings, and who, it is to be feared, have entered the Church, not for the cure of souls, but, it seems, for themselves and their families' social and secular advantage; or with the motives of those who are expecting preferment to the high prizes in the Church.

And lastly, let him, if he can, ascertain what proportion of evangelical sermons are sold to those whose sympathies are not in harmony therewith; but because these sermons are in harmony with the feelings of their people.

I say, let *"Essex"* draw on these sources for information; and if he is not utterly bewildered in the maze of opinions as to what is or is not Gospel-preaching, he will have no difficulty in ascertaining for himself that which he requires of me.

Let him further remember that in the multitude of counsellors there is wisdom; and that all the clergy have sworn their full assent and consent to all contained in that Prayer-book, which, according to the creed of the late Bishop of Peterborough, is a book essential to the right understanding of God's Holy Bible, though it be man's composition. The Bishop's words are—"If we neglect to provide the poor of the Establishment with the Book of Common Prayer, as well as with the Bible, we certainly neglect the means of preventing their seduction from the Established Church." As to the remarks of *"Essex"* respecting persons who only wish to proselytise, and not to work, in the neglected parishes, it must arise from ignorance of the objects of the *"Home Mission"*, for had he been as anxious to learn as to find fault, he would have known that the object for which it exists is to carry the Gospel to the ignorant, without regard to sect or party. With respects,

I remain, yours very truly,

J. F. BUTLER.

Childeritch Hall, May 21, 1864.

**ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.**—Sir Hugh Owen, Liberal, who announced his intention some time since of retiring from the representation of the Pembroke boroughs, has expressed his determination to come forward at the next general election.—The Conservative opponent of Mr. Cobden at the general election is to be Mr. Balil Brett, Q.C., of the Northern Circuit.—It is officially announced that Mr. Henry Stone, of Leigh-park, near Havant, will come forward as a candidate for the representation of Portsmouth at the next general election. Mr. Stone is a Liberal, and would give an independent support to Lord Palmerston's Administration. He is "tolerant in matters of religion," whatever that vague phrase may mean.—It is stated that Sir John Romilly, the Master of the Rolls, will be asked to become a candidate for the representation of Westminster at the next general election. The Master of the Rolls is the only judge who can sit in the House of Commons.

#### Anniversaries.

##### CONGREGATIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The annual public meeting of this institution was held on Thursday evening, May 12th, at the College, Homerton, Samuel Morley, Esq., the treasurer, presiding. The Rev. W. J. UNWIN, LL.D., the principal, read the following report:—

The difficulty is, and the care should be, to get religion wisely and well into schools, not to keep it out. That indeed is easy enough, but how to bring in religion so that it may be taught itself and influence all other teaching, and leave permanent impressions on all scholars, is the problem of problems. These words of Algernon Wells, a name still cherished with affectionate respect, forcibly set forth the views of those who originated the Congregational Board of Education, and the experience of twenty-one years has illustrated their significance and furnished fresh evidence of their profound importance.

It is not now a matter of dispute whether the people shall be educated, but on what principles their education should be conducted, and this question is intimately related to the well being of society and the extension of Christianity. Education is not simply an ability to read, write, and keep accounts. It is a development of all the faculties of a child,—comprising such a training of the body as shall build it up with robustness and strength—such a discipline of the intellect as shall enable it to understand the material and spiritual laws of the universe,—but above all, such a culture of the moral affections as shall form the character for usefulness here and happiness in the world to come.

The faculties of a child, whether physical, intellectual, or moral, are developed by a fixed law. They grow by exercise, and lose tone and vigour by inaction. The soldier marches strength into his limbs—the practical man thinks quickness and judgment into his mind, and the Christian lives his prayers of love and his thoughts of mercy until every man becomes his brother. Thus constituted, future conduct must, under God, be determined by the motives which bring the moral powers into existence, and in education motives are everything.

Whence, then, must the teacher derive the motives by which to stimulate his youthful charge to the performance of duty, and the resistance of evil? How shall conscience be awakened, wrong propensities subdued, and right principles strengthened? How in a school, which is an epitome of the world, shall a public opinion be formed in favour of what is truthful, honourable, and virtuous? Shall recourse be had to the teachings of natural religion, or to the morality inculcated by heathen writers?—shall reliance be placed on æsthetic principles, and the attempt be made to win erring childhood to virtue by pictures of its comeliness?—or shall the conventional moralities of social life be insisted upon, and success be anticipated from the teachings of a utilitarian philosophy? Were there no "folly bound up in the heart of a child"—if the experience of childhood did not in manifold ways confirm the doctrine of human depravity, one or other of these courses might be adopted. But if a darkness rests on the spirit of a child which such teaching cannot pierce—if it has tendencies to evil such expedients cannot counteract, and passions not thus to be controlled—"to train up a child in the way he should go" would be the most hopeless of tasks if other means were not within our reach. These are not wanting. The Word of God is the instrument of religious culture, and the agency of the Holy Spirit is the guarantee that its employment shall not be in vain. Education is thus a religious work, and must be entrusted to persons of earnest piety. In a school character is forming at all times, and in connection with all duties occasions occur for exercising the moral faculties by the stimulus of right motives. Hence the secular and the religious elements, like the warp and the woof, must go together, and our youth learn the highest of all lessons—that religion is not a thing of places and times, but a life, a character, the manifestations of which will appear not only in the sanctuary and in the closet, but in the pursuits of every-day life, every call being hallowed by the motives which prompt to action, and by the end which is ever kept in view.

The religious element in schools is not to be secured by arrangements depending on laws and regulations, however rigidly enforced; nor by catechisms or religious formularies drawn up with scrupulous care; nor even by the reading and exposition of Holy Scripture. It must come from the mind and heart of the teacher; from his instruction, his government, his example, his prayers, his "watching for souls as one that must give account," his solicitude to save himself and those entrusted to his care, his labours "in season and out of season," as if all depended on himself, his deep humility mingling with a trustful confidence that "in due season he shall reap, if he faint not."

The Congregational Board of Education is engaged in training teachers of both sexes for infant and juvenile schools, and while seeking in other ways to improve and extend the means of elementary instruction, it regards this department of service as the most valuable contribution it can render to the cause of popular education. It asks the co-operation of the ministers and members of our churches to furnish increased pecuniary support, that its operations may be extended; to look out suitable candidates to be trained for the work of teaching; but it most earnestly desires that education may awaken a deeper interest throughout the country; that it may become more fully the care of the churches; and that in the public devotions of the sanctuary, at the domestic altar, and in the closet, prayer may be offered continually for the outpouring of the Spirit on families and on schools; on Christian parents and teachers; and on all the means by which Christian zeal is seeking to bring the youth of our land to the obedience of faith. Let the importance of Christian education be understood, and its claims be kept in view, and the future will witness a more careful superintendence of existing efforts—the opening of new schools, where the means of instruction are inadequate, larger sympathy with the teacher in his responsible work, and more widely extended efforts to awaken in the minds of parents a deeper sense of their obligations, and a willingness to incur some sacrifice in order to secure for their offspring the means of instruction.

Homerton College.—Thirty-three students are at pre-

sent in the institution, and during the past year thirty-one have been appointed to schools.

**Model and Practising Schools.**—The number of scholars in attendance is 800; the school fees have amounted to 538*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*, which, with 122*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* received for books and materials and library, makes a total of 661*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.*, the largest amount that has been realised since the opening of the schools.

**Aid to Schools in Poor Districts.**—Assistance has been rendered to thirty-two schools, amongst which the sum of 139*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.* has been distributed, and most gratefully acknowledged.

**School Inspection and Parents' Meetings.**—This department of effort has not been neglected, but the board is most anxious to secure sufficient means to extend these most valuable operations.

**Publications.**—The "statement" presented at the autumnal meeting of the Congregational Union at Liverpool has been sent to the Independent and Baptist ministers in Great Britain and Ireland, to the ministers of the Free Church and of the United Presbyterian Church in Scotland; to ministers in the British colonies; to missionaries in connexion with the London and Baptist Societies; and to a large number of laymen in London and in the country, making a total of 8,500. The board trusts that this effort will be productive of much good.

**Depository.**—The amount of sales during the past year have increased. Every effort is made to provide the most suitable school books and materials, and to supply them at the lowest cost.

In closing the operations of another year the board devoutly acknowledges its obligations to the Author of all good for the measure of success it has realised. For the future it desires larger measures of wisdom and grace that every undertaking may be begun, continued, and ended in God. May His mercy forgive the errors of the past, and His grace be more abundantly bestowed in the time to come! May all connected with the work in which it is engaged receive a fresh baptism of the Holy Spirit, and influenced by the highest motives enjoy the blessedness of those "who sow beside all waters!"

SAMUEL MORLEY, Esq., expressed his unabated interest in the work of the board and his conviction of the soundness and ultimate triumph of its principles. Referring with great satisfaction to the utterance of the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon at the recent annual meeting of the British and Foreign School Society, he deemed it a matter of congratulation that in the presence of the committee and officers of an institution so largely participating in the Parliamentary grant, and at a meeting under the presidency of Earl Granville, the President of the Committee of Council on Education, the principles of the Congregational Board of Education should have been so clearly enunciated as in the following words:—"He (Mr. Spurgeon) expressed his belief that education would never be complete while extraneous assistance was obtained for it. The real principle to be aimed at in education was no Government grant and no charity. Until that principle was understood and acted upon there would be no perfect education."

The balance-sheet for the year was read, showing that the receipts had been on the general account 1,607*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.*, and the expenditure 1,313*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.*, leaving a balance of 293*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.*; on the School Fund Account 243*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.* had been received and 139*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.* disbursed, leaving a balance of 103*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* On the Special Fund Account, 500*l.*

The Rev. JAMES PARSONS, of York, moved, and the Rev. J. KETLEY, of Demerara, seconded the following resolution:—

That the report and statement of cash account now presented be adopted and circulated under the direction of the board, and that the accompanying list of gentlemen be the officers and members of the board for the ensuing year.

CHARLES REED, Esq., F.S.A., proposed a vote of thanks to Samuel Morley, Esq., for the important services he had rendered to the cause of voluntary religious education; which was unanimously adopted.

After the meeting a sermon was preached at the Old Gravel Pit Chapel, Hackney, by the Rev. Samuel Martin, minister of Westminster Chapel, from Proverbs xx. 11, to a crowded and deeply interested audience. The elder scholars in the Homerton College Schools, amounting to 500, occupied the galleries.

#### EVANGELICAL CONTINENTAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this society was held on Thursday evening week in the lower room, Exeter Hall; J. R. Mills, Esq., M.P., in the chair. After a short address from the chairman adverting to the promising field of operations in Italy, and the state of ecclesiastical affairs in France,

The Rev. J. SHEDLOCK, M.A., the secretary, read the report, which stated that there had during the past year been a further increase in the funds of the society. The following figures will show its continued financial progress. In 1860 the income was 1,243*l.*; in 1861, 1,663*l.*; in 1862, 1,762*l.*; in 1863, 1,812*l.*; and during the past year, 1,983*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* The new plan of aiding the continental societies was working satisfactorily. During the past year the society had provided the funds for the maintenance of eighteen evangelists, four in Belgium, nine in Italy, and five in France. They had also rendered aid to schools in Milan and elsewhere, and it was a matter of regret that the funds were not sufficient to enable them to do so more liberally. At Milan, where the society have had two evangelists for three and a half years, the blessing of God upon their labours had been so abundant that if the whole of their funds had been devoted to this one spot there would have been ample reason to persevere. The report of the Milan committee referred especially to the fact that a number of marriages had been celebrated by Evangelical pastors as indicative of the manner in which the Italian women were breaking away from the influence of the Romish Church. The attendance at the schools had increased, and the number of church-members numbered about 800. (Hear, hear.) The



secretary had visited the churches at Lyons, Geneva, Marseilles, Nice, which were aided by the society, and the more intimately he knew them the more confidence he felt in them. In Geneva, Florence, Milan, Turin, and elsewhere, the schools had made great progress, and were found to be very important adjuncts in the work of evangelisation.

The Rev. EDWARD PRUST moved the adoption of the report. It was almost impossible, he said, to over-estimate the importance of the work of continental evangelisation at the present moment. In Belgium there was a general disposition to have the truth of the Gospel, and it would be a crying dereliction of duty on the part of British Christians if they did not afford all the assistance in their power. France was in a sad condition. The immense circulation of M. Rénan's book was an indication that the French population had only been accustomed to see Christianity under the caricature of Popery. But the Protestant societies in France generally were doing a great work. He (Mr. Prust) knew something of their labours. He had seen the colporteurs carrying their picks on their backs through the country districts, and plying earnestly their vocation in the midst of crowded steam-packets; and he had been deeply impressed with the value of the labours of the French Evangelical Society.

Pastor FISCH said he blessed God for the increase of their society. Being a Dissenter himself, he felt that he was in his own family in being with them, and he was proud to hear that the churches in England were doing so much and so well for the cause of God abroad. It must be highly pleasing in the sight of God to see churches that were highly privileged aiding their poor sister churches, who were labouring under immense difficulties. As he had lately been over all the stations of the Evangelical Society of France, he was enabled to offer some particulars. With one exception only, there was not a station which had not been prosperous during the last year. (Hear, hear.) Everywhere the Lord was at work.

One station which had always been in a most miserable state was now in a flourishing condition. For the work that was progressing in the Haut Vienne they had great reason to be thankful. There was one village to which during the persecutions the police-officer went every Sunday to hunt for meeting; and where the authorities were all Roman Catholics they were now all Protestants, and Popery was in a most miserable state. The poor priest had a church, with nobody in it, and he was to be seen on a Sunday morning a procession by himself round his church—(laughter)—and praying for the conversion of his people. Another Protestant community, which was formerly persecuted, seemed now to be the pet of the Government. They wanted a road, and the Prefect gave them a road; they wanted a bridge, and the Prefect gave them a bridge, and seemed to be doing all he could to comfort them for all their past trials. The schools here were never so frequented. For some years of trouble the parents had stood firm to Protestantism, but they had no schools in which to train their children; they would not send them to the Roman Catholic schools, which was attended only by the children from other parishes. But a little prayer-meeting was formed by the children of the Protestants, and that meeting was presided over by a little girl nine years old. These children had prayed earnestly, and the Lord had heard their prayers, and granted the reopening of their schools.

In the department of Lyons they had an interesting work going on. The Evangelical Society of France was cultivating that field, and had taken possession of all the stations that were opened before the persecution. One place he visited at the time of the persecution, and they would not allow him to read the Gospel. Now matters were greatly changed. The wife of the mayor, who was a very bigoted Roman Catholic lady, had been converted, and was a pattern of piety and charity. She was using all her influence to spread the Gospel. He had lately preached in this place, and the audience felt the power of the Holy Spirit. The French Evangelical Society had added to their number eighteen new evangelists. The agents of all the Evangelical Societies labouring in France were between 200 and 300, and the population was 32,000,000. The French Evangelical Union had sustained a great loss by the death of Frederick Monod, whose name would long remain dear to the Church of Christ. (Hear, hear.) The Union was still very young, but it was a growing child. Last synod they received five new churches; next synod he hoped they might receive as many—perhaps more. Recent events were bringing together Christians of all denominations, and also breaking the tie which united them to the State. Those who were once the greatest supporters of union with the Government, were now in favour of an independent church, and they might hope that within twenty years the accursed bond which kept together a Roman Catholic State, and a Protestant Church would have been broken, and that all the Christians in France would unite in one free Church. (Cheers.)

M. DE FAYE, the representative of the Evangelical Society of Belgium, gave some account of the progress of the Gospel amongst the Roman Catholics in Belgium. In Liège, where they had five Protestant stations, four of the pastors were formerly Romanists. In the province of Hainault also, all the pastors, with one exception, were converted Romanists. There were three or four converted Romanists also studying for the ministry, and some of these were formerly not only Romanists, but priests. This was in answer to the question, "What are you doing among the Papists?"

M. PROMIEB, of Geneva, then addressed the meeting in French, and a résumé of his speech was afterwards given in English by the Rev. Baptist Noel. He spoke more especially of the progress of evangelical truth amongst Roman Catholic workmen in Geneva,

and showed that God was working with His servants there.

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

**BAND OF HOPE UNION.**—The managers and superintendents of the various unions that have been formed throughout the United Kingdom held their annual conference on Wednesday at Exeter Hall. There were three sittings during the day. At the morning sitting Mr. Edmund Fry presided, and two papers were read, one by the Rev. G. W. McCree being, "A survey of the Band of Hope movement"; and the other by Mr. H. Mudge, of Bodmin, "On total abstinence in relation to the health of children." At noon Lieutenant-Colonel Young took the chair, when a paper was read by Mr. Boyle, of Manchester, on "The state of the Band of Hope movement in Lancashire and Yorkshire," and another Mr. J. P. Dexter, "Clubs and evening recreations for the elder members of the Bands of Hope." The evening sitting was presided over by Mr. W. J. Haynes, and a paper was read on "The necessity of Bands of Hope in connection with Sunday-schools" by the Rev. Isaac Dorey, and one "On deputations" by Mr. F. Smith. All the papers possessed the merit of being short and of being written in a plain, unadorned style. After the reading of each paper a discussion ensued, in which the speakers—all of whom, it should be borne in mind, are persons practically engaged in carrying out the objects of these unions—stated the results of their varied experience. In some places great success had attended the efforts of the movement. At Manchester, and within an area of three miles of that city, there are upwards of 100 Bands of Hope, having 1,400 actual members. Of Sheffield, Portsea, Northampton, and other populous towns, similar favourable accounts were given. One great object of the institution, as it may rightly be called, is to gain access to the Sunday-schools, and if possible, establish Bands of Hope among the children. Some of the deputies reported that their efforts in that direction had been attended with success, while others said impediments were thrown in their way, chiefly by the older Sunday-school teachers, many of whom regarded the whole thing with indifference, and some even with dislike. Another obstacle against which the advocates of total abstinence among the young had to contend was stated to be the lukewarmness of the ministers of religion, and more especially of the clergy of the Church of England, towards the cause; and this feeling on the part of the latter was attributed by the Rev. Mr. Sorine, himself a clergyman of the Church of England, and who spoke warmly in support of Bands of Hope, to the habits and manners of the upper classes with whom those clergymen associated, and who had not the moral courage to pass the bottle untested at the tables of the great. It was even said by one or two speakers that a feeling of jealousy was entertained against the meeting by an influential portion of the Temperance League, but the meeting appeared unwilling to give credence to what they called a most improbable statement. During the sittings many practical suggestions were offered and discussed as to the best means of furthering the great cause of total abstinence, and at a late hour the conference broke up.

**HOME AND SCHOOL FOR THE SONS OF MISSIONARIES, BLACKHEATH.**—The subscribers and friends of this institution breakfasted together on Monday, the 16th inst., in the library of the Baptist Mission-house, Moorgate-street. After breakfast the usual business of the anniversary commenced. The chair was taken by Mr. Thomas Spalding, the treasurer, who in his opening address alluded to the very great importance of this institution as an auxiliary to the work of foreign missions, and in reminding the subscribers of its growth during the twelve years of its existence he showed that its increasing popularity tended to involve it in pecuniary difficulties unless some new subscribers were obtained. The report was read by the hon. secretary, the Rev. F. Trestrail. It set forth that there were at present 63 boys in the institution, and that during the year 14 pupils had successfully competed at the various University examinations. It also contained the *testamur* of the school examiners, which were of a very laudatory character. The rev. gentleman further stated that the cost of the new building, 7,000*l.*, had been all raised, with the exception of the small sum of 300*l.*, towards which amount the treasurer had now promised upwards of 150*l.* The effort to obtain this money had in some degree crippled the funds available for the working expenses of the society, but exertions are already commenced which it is hoped will soon place this fund in a sound condition. The adoption of this report was moved by the Rev. F. Tucker, B.A., and ably seconded by the Rev. J. Spence, D.D. The Revs. Dr. Steane, J. Beazley, J. Kennedy, M.A., W. Farebrother, and J. Sewell, with Mr. Charles Reed, F.S.A., and Mr. Frederick Tomkins, D.C.L., also took part in the proceedings, which were closed by a very humorous and effective speech from Mr. Joseph Payne, Deputy-Assistant-Judge of Middlesex.

**NATIONAL TEMPERANCE LEAGUE.**—The annual meeting of this association was held on Thursday night in Exeter Hall, which was nearly filled with the members and friends of the society, the platform being occupied by clergymen and other prominent promoters of temperance in town and from a distance. About thirty teetotal non-commissioned officers from Woolwich and other garrisons were on the platform. Mr. Samuel Morley presided; and the report, which was read by Mr. Tweedie, referred to the establishment, by

means of deputations from the League, of temperance societies by the undergraduates at Oxford and Cambridge. About one-half of the students attending the English theological colleges are total abstainers; while at five of those colleges, the names of which were given, there is no dietetic use of fermented or spirituous liquors by the students. Ten meetings had been held by the League at diocesan and other training colleges for schoolmasters, which were attended by the principals and tutors, as well as by the students, many of whom became abstainers; and it was found that at six of the ten colleges visited no intoxicating liquors of any kind are provided for the use of the students, except under medical prescription. Two conferences had been held with London schoolmasters, to consider the propriety of introducing temperance into elementary schools as a branch of common education, and arrangements were made for the delivery of addresses to the children of many metropolitan schools during the ordinary school-hours, as well as for an extensive distribution of temperance publications. An illustrated chemical lecture had been given to the inmates of the Orphan Asylum, Clapton; and when the elder class of boys were asked, two weeks afterwards, if any of them had abstained from beer since hearing the lecture, three-fourths of them stated that they had ceased to take the small quantity of beer allowed to each at dinner. Eleven meetings had been held at the warehouses of Messrs. Copestake, Moore, Crampton, and Co.; Messrs. J. and R. Morley; Messrs. Hitchcock, Williams, and Co.; Messrs. Foster, Porter, and Co.; Messrs. W. Tarn and Co.; Messrs. J. Crane and Co.; Messrs. Bradbury, Greatorex, Beall, and Co.; Messrs. Swan and Edgar; and Messrs. Leaf, Sons, and Co. The average attendance at these meetings was about 120, and eight of them were presided over by principals of firms. Select private meetings had been held in town and country, to bring the question before the influential classes; and a series of special public meetings had been held in different districts of London, including sixteen at the Lambeth Baths, the average attendance at which was upwards of 1,000 persons. The number of addresses delivered by the lecturers and honorary deputations of the league during last year was about 1,600. The missionary to sailors had during three years held 420 meetings on board ships in the port of London, and had induced 796 seamen to sign the pledge. Numerous meetings had been held with the soldiers at Aldershot, Woolwich, Warley, Weedon, Birmingham, as well as at Kensington Barracks, Regent's-park Barracks, and the Tower; and a Military Temperance Society had been formed at the Tower, which has now 120 members. Meetings had also been held with the militia, the police, and other classes. An extensive correspondence had been maintained with friends of the movement in all parts of the country; advice and assistance, both in speakers and publications, had been freely rendered to clergymen, missionaries, and other desirous of engaging in temperance work; interviews had been held with numerous principals of colleges, heads of mercantile firms, military officials, and other gentlemen of influence; and in many cases of persons of intemperate habits, followed up by the society's missionaries and private friends, the results had been of the most delightful character. The subscriptions and donations for the year amounted to 130*l.* more than the preceding year, and the liabilities were 180*l.* less. After the report had been read, the meeting was addressed by the chairman, Mr. Edward Horner, J.P., Halesstead; the Rev. John Griffiths, M.A., rector of Neath; the Rev. Joseph Brown, D.D., deputy from the Scottish Temperance League; Mr. Samuel Bowly, Gloucester; the Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B.; and the Rev. Stenton Eudley, M.A., of Streatham.

## Parliamentary Proceedings.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

#### THE GREEK PROFESSORSHIP.

On Monday the Earl of DERBY mentioned that, in a speech on the second reading of the Greek Professorship at Oxford, the Lord Chancellor had charged the university with a breach of faith in not having endowed the professorship. He contended that the university had fulfilled every engagement into which it had entered. The LORD CHANCELLOR, though unwilling to charge the university with a distinct breach of faith, was bound to say that that body had failed to discharge its duty in not making adequate provision for the Greek Professorship. Earl GRANVILLE was glad that the debate upon the bill had encouraged the university authorities to make a further attempt to do a mere act of justice to the learned Professor of Greek. The subject then dropped.

#### SMALL DEBTS.

The LORD CHANCELLOR moved the second reading of the County Courts Acts Amendment Bill.

Lord BROUGHAM was of opinion that the bill required amendment in committee.

Lord St. LEONARDS said that this was a question of great social importance. By the existing law a debt was recoverable for a period of six years from the time of its contract, acknowledgment, or part payment; but the present bill declared that no debt under 20*l.* should be recoverable after the expiration of a year from the time of its being due. He saw no reason for this reduction of the term of six years to one year, and he was certainly of opinion that the period within which small debts might be recoverable ought not to be less than three years. In his opinion the bill was one which would have as wide an operation as it was



possible to conceive, and, if passed into law, it might fairly be called a bill for stopping the credit of the labouring classes. He strongly objected to county courts being turned into courts of equity.

Lord CHELMSFORD looked upon the bill as involving a social question of the highest importance; it was a question which required the most cautious deliberation. He should not offer any opposition to the second reading of the bill, but its future progress required to be watched very narrowly.

Lord CRANWORTH approved the material features of the bill, and gave his cordial assent to the second reading, after which the bill was read a second time.

The Under-Secretaries Indemnity Bill and Common Law Procedure (Ireland) Act (1853) Amendment Bill were read a third time and passed.

Their Lordships then adjourned till Thursday next.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

On Thursday the House of Commons assembled after the Whitsuntide recess. The attendance of members was so small that it was with difficulty the forty requisite to make a House could be got together at four o'clock.

In reply to Mr. Whiteside, Mr. LAYARD said he had seen statements in the papers that contributions had been levied on the people of Jutland after the commencement of the armistice, but the Government had no authoritative information on the subject.

In reply to Sir J. Pakington, Sir G. GREY said he had not seen any statement that the Austrian squadron was about to proceed to the Baltic. Mr. LAYARD said he believed that the part of the Austrian squadron which had been left behind at Lisbon was about to join the other ships in the North Sea, but not to proceed to the Baltic.

Lord J. MANNERS gave notice that when Mr. Cowper proposed a vote of 150,000*l.* for building a National Gallery at Burlington House, he should oppose the vote, with a view of retaining the National Gallery in its present position. (Hear, hear.)

In reply to Mr. Hennessey, Mr. LAYARD said the Government had information that large numbers of Circassians were emigrating from their country, considering it impossible to live under the dominion of Russia. The Turkish Government was doing all it could to relieve the wants of the emigrants. He could not say whether the papers on the subject would be laid upon the table.

Sir G. GREY, in reply to a question, said the Church-building Acts Bill would not come on before the 26th.

The Union Assessment Committee Act Amendment Bill passed through committee.

Mr. DODSON obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the Registration of County Voters in England and Wales; and Sir G. GREY a bill to amend the Act for the Better Management of Highways in England.

Some other measures were advanced a stage, and the House adjourned at seven minutes past six.

On Friday, on the motion of Mr. BRAND, a new writ was ordered for the city of Gloucester, in the room of Mr. J. G. Powell, who has been appointed recorder of Wolverhampton.

Lord Palmerston entered the House at half-past four o'clock, and was received with loud cheers from both sides of the House. He walked briskly to his seat, and seemed to have entirely recovered from his late illness.

#### PRUSSIAN LEVIES IN JUTLAND.

Mr. WHITESIDE asked if the Government had received any communication to the effect that exactions or contributions were still being levied in Jutland by the Prussian army, and if so, whether the levying of such contributions was not a violation of the terms of the armistice?

Lord PALMERSTON said the conditions of the armistice were quite clear, viz., that no fresh contributions should be levied. There was, however, some ambiguity in the understanding between the parties, as to whether contributions ordered before the armistice was concluded should be levied.

Sir MINTO FARQUHAR asked if it was not understood that all provisions levied were to be paid for?

Lord PALMERSTON: Yes; clearly.

#### CAPTAIN GRANT.

On the order of the day for going into committee of supply, Col. NORTH moved that the House would, on Monday next, resolve itself into a committee, to consider an address to her Majesty praying that she would be graciously pleased to consider the services of Captain Grant, and order him some suitable reward for his services in improving the system of cooking in the army, and effecting a considerable saving in the public expenditure for fuel. Col. DIXON seconded the motion.

The Marquis of HARTINGTON opposed the motion, on the ground that Captain Grant had already been sufficiently remunerated. Rejected by 104 to 70.

#### OUR POLICY IN CHINA.

Mr. BAXTER called attention to the state of affairs in China. He thought, he said, that the time had arrived when it was incumbent upon the House to express an opinion upon our policy in China, to which he objected for two reasons: first, that it was bad in principle; and second, that it was not likely to succeed. If the policy enjoined upon our officers in China was, as alleged, one of strict neutrality, it had been broken, he observed, times without number. He cited proofs of his first reason, showing the errors of the policy pursued by our functionaries in China; and, upon the second point, the hopelessness of its success, he appealed to facts, as well as opinions, and insisted that it was not our interest to take any steps to support of the Tartar dynasty in China. He concluded

by asking the Government whether they meant to adhere in future strictly to the defence of British property in China, refusing aid, directly and indirectly, to either of the belligerents.

Lord PALMERSTON said that the principle of non-intervention was a right one, but it must be remembered that this country had interfered in the affairs of Greece, Belgium, Portugal, Spain, Syria, Egypt, and other places. We had also interfered in the events which led to the war in the Crimea, and not entirely without success. We had interfered in the affairs of China because our treaty rights were in danger, and our neutral interests were at stake. The hon. gentleman had appealed to the House as a merchant, but the circumstances of these commercial gentlemen were peculiar. They were constantly pressing upon the Government to make treaties of commerce and to extend the range of commerce, and when that was done they condemned the policy they had previously recommended. It had been considered that China would open a vast field for commercial enterprise, and it had done so, and to the extension of our trade in that quarter might be attributed the alleviation of the distress which had prevailed in this country arising out of the war with America. He denounced the conduct of the Taepings, who had laid districts waste, and reduced the population to starvation, and he expressed a strong opinion that the rebellion having now been narrowed within more restricted limits was rapidly tottering to its fall. It was never the intention of her Majesty's Government to render assistance to the Imperialists beyond what was necessary to afford protection to British property and trading interests at the Treaty ports.

Mr. LIDDELL thought the statement which had been made by the noble lord was most unsatisfactory. He denied that our treaty rights had ever been in danger.

Lord NAAS also censured the policy of the Government.

After some observations from Colonel SYKES, the subject dropped.

#### THE WAR IN ASHANTEE.

Sir J. PAKINGTON asked the Colonial Secretary what the causes were which had led to the war with the King of Ashantee, whether there was any prospect of her Majesty's troops being relieved from the destructive effects of that climate by a peaceful solution of the question, and whether he would lay the papers on the table?

Mr. CARDWELL, having stated the origin of the war and disavowed any idea of territorial conquest, said that transports would be sent to the Gold Coast to remove all the troops who could not be accommodated by ordinary means; that the troops would be removed from the interior; and that the stockades would be given up to the native chiefs to protect the river Poah, and that any stores which could not be conveniently removed would also be handed over to friendly nations. After a few words from Sir J. HAY, an ineffectual attempt was made to count out.

The House then went into committee of supply. After several votes had been taken, the attention of the Chairman was called to the fact that there were not forty members present in the House. The fact was reported to the Speaker, who counted the House, and, finding only twenty-nine present, the House adjourned at twenty minutes before eight o'clock.

On Monday, Mr. H. BRUCE, on behalf of the Government, fixed Thursday evening for the debate on Mr. Adderley's motion as to endowed schools.

In reply to a question from Lord J. Manners, Lord PALMERSTON announced that the Church-building Acts Bill would not come on this week.

On the motion for the adjournment of the House to Thursday, Mr. WHITESIDE called attention to an order of General von Bornstedt, issued after the armistice commenced, to the effect that contributions should be taken by force from the people of Jutland. Mr. LAYARD said that the Prussian Ambassador had assured the Government that no forced contributions would be raised in Jutland, but that all provisions furnished to the Prussian troops would be paid for. The Government had no official information as to the order quoted. The terms of the armistice distinctly provided that no forced contributions should be levied. Mr. D. GRIFFITH complained that the question should not have been answered by the Under-Secretary when Lord Palmerston was present. He should like to know in what kind of money the contributions were to be paid for. Lord PALMERSTON could not say in what money the contributions would be paid for.

In reply to Colonel French and Mr. Hennessey, Sir G. GREY said he could not fix a day on which the motion of the latter gentleman as to the departure of the agricultural population from Ireland would come on. After a few words from Mr. SCULLY, the matter dropped.

The motion for adjournment was agreed to.

Mr. H. BERKELEY gave notice that he should bring forward his Ballot motion on the 21st of June. The Vacating of Seats Bill was read a second time after a brief discussion.

The second reading of the Court of Chancery (Ireland) Bill was postponed.

On the motion for the second reading of the Beer-houses (Ireland) Bill, a discussion took place. Eventually, however, the bill was read a second time.

The other orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned at twenty-five minutes to seven.

The number of patients relieved at the Hospital for Diseases of the Heart, 67, Margaret-street, Cavendish-square, was 115 during the week.

#### Postscript.

Wednesday, May 25, 1864.

#### LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

A Berlin paper of repute publishes to-day a telegram from Vienna, which purports to describe the position of England and France with respect to the Dano-German Duchies. On this authority it appears that the representatives of the two Western Powers have declared to Count Rechberg that they abandon the treaty of succession of 1852, that they agree to the union of Southern Schleswig with Holstein as a separate State, and that they absolutely reject the proposal of a personal union between that State and Denmark. This news, we must add, greatly requires confirmation. Nothing that the public have yet had an opportunity of learning regarding the policy of Earl Russell and the Government suggests the probability of so sudden and decided a step having been resolved upon.

Baron von Beust, the Envoy of the Germanic Confederation, left Paris yesterday for London.

The *Pays* of last evening again takes an alarmist tone with regard to the health of the Pope. It insists that the latest news received is very unfavourable as to the condition of Pius the Ninth.

Marshal Pelissier, Duke of Malakoff, is dead. The Duke had been for some days ill, but it was not expected that the illness would have a fatal termination. His career as a soldier closed where its conspicuous part began—in Algeria. He found the Algerian provinces in warlike commotion, and so too he leaves them. The career of no French soldier of our day was better known to the English public. His Algerian deeds were the theme of much discussion; his services in the Crimea were watched closely by England; and he was for a short time ambassador at the English Court. He was a general of great military capacity, but of a somewhat old school—rough, stern, and not too scrupulous. But he is an undoubted loss to the Empire which he served so well.

Another reactionary conspiracy has been discovered at Jassy. Deputy Bulech has been arrested. The papers of a so-called National Committee have been seized. General indignation has been excited by this discovery. The result of the popular voting is almost everywhere unanimous in favour of Prince Couza.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY was celebrated yesterday in the usual way in the metropolis. A more than usually interesting spectacle, however, was that presented by the parade of the Guards and their inspection by the Prince and Princess of Wales. In the evening the principal Cabinet Ministers gave state dinners, and most of the clubs and the West-end tradesmen illuminated their premises.

THE MIDDLE LEVEL LITIGATION.—A very important decision was given yesterday in the Court of Queen's Bench. The question at issue was whether the Middle Level Commissioners were liable for the neglect of their servants in respect of the inundation in Norfolk some time ago. Mr. Justice Mellor and the Lord Chief Justice held they were not. Mr. Justice Blackburn was of a different opinion. The case will be taken to the Court of Error.

THE TAMWORTH CHURCH-RATE CASE.—The question of costs in the case of Hill and Bailey v. Haskew, which was decided on the 5th inst., was on Monday brought before the Court of Arches, when the court refused to allow the defendant costs on the Prebendal land inquiry but gave them on the other point against the parish. It is anticipated that the costs in this long-contested suit will amount to nearly 1,000*l.*

THE STEAM-RAMS.—The public will not be displeased to learn that the two steam-rams at Liverpool, respecting the destination of which so much controversy has taken place, are now the property of her Majesty. Their purchase by the Government is in all respects a satisfactory ending of an unpleasant and complicated affair. The vessels themselves are most admirably calculated to fulfil the warlike purposes for which they are designed; they are useful additions to the Royal navy, and the nation has got value for the money paid for them.—*Globe*.

#### MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

A very moderate supply of home-grown wheat was received fresh up to this morning's market. Both for red and white qualities, there was a steady demand, and Monday's currency was well supported. The supply of foreign wheat on the stands was moderate. The foreign wheat trade, however, was far from active. Nevertheless, prices ruled firm. Floating cargoes of grain moved off steadily, at full currencies. With barley, the market was seasonable well supplied. On the whole the trade ruled steady, at full currencies. Malt was in fair average request, at late rates. There was a moderate supply of oats on offer. For most descriptions, there was a steady demand, at full quotations. Beans and peas ruled firm, at fully late rates. In flour, a fair average business was transacted, at full quotations.

A NEW MODEL STEAMER.—The new Cigar screw-steamship, now being built at Millwall, is constructed on a principle somewhat similar to that of two such vessels built in America and Russia, the chief point of difference between this steamer and the foreign ones being that it is fitted with a screw at both stem and stern, whereas in the American there was one screw in the centre, and the Russian was furnished with the ordinary submerged stern screw. The vessel tapers to a point at each end, and is completely circular in shape throughout her entire length. She is intended not to ride but to pierce the waves, which are expected to break over her harmlessly. Wonders are anticipated from this vessel in the matter of speed. She is to beat every sea-going craft afloat, and make at least twenty-three knots an hour. The Cigar steamship is expected to be ready for launching about the beginning of July.



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## The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 1864.

## SUMMARY.

MORE than one occasion has offered during the week of evoking British loyalty towards the head of the State and the Royal family. The Queen's birthday was celebrated yesterday with the customary pomp and rejoicing, for the first time since 1861. There was a review in St. James's Park in the morning; state banquets and illuminations in the evening. The only matter for regret was the absence of her Majesty in the far north, on an occasion gladly seized upon by her subjects to testify their unabated attachment to her person. Last Wednesday, also, the Prince of Wales, upon whom appropriately devolve some of the ceremonial obligations of the Sovereign, for the first time essayed the duties of chairman at a public dinner by presiding at the banquet of the Royal Literary Fund. His Royal Highness in that capacity appears to have given satisfaction to all but a few hyper-critical friends of the Church of England, who have expressed their alarm that the Prince should have delegated the duty of proposing the toast of "The Church" to Mr. Cardwell, instead of taking it himself. Possibly his Royal Highness may have felt that, on such an occasion, a toast which is merely an offensive symbol of exclusive pretensions did not become his lips, and was somewhat of an anachronism at a time when one-half of the British people are outside the pale of the Establishment. But more probably no slight whatever was intended, and the arrangement was a mere matter of convenience.

There is news from Vienna, by way of Berlin, too good to be credited. It is said that the British Government, finding that the proposed personal union of the Duchies with Denmark cannot be realised, or that it contains the germs of future trouble, have abandoned the Treaty of 1852, and proposed that Southern Schleswig shall be united with Holstein to form an independent German State, and that the northern half of that province shall be absolutely annexed to Denmark. The "personal union" not only means the shadow without the substance, but that Germany shall have opportunity of eventually absorbing the whole of the two Duchies. There seems no doubt that the Danes desire above all things a final settlement of the complicated Schleswig-Holstein question, which would entirely free them from German intervention. And the scheme referred to, though involving a sacrifice of the sovereign rights of the King of Denmark, is well adapted to fulfil this condition. If the report be true, the Conference, which re-assembles on Saturday, is likely to have an easy task, and the armistice will be only a prelude to permanent peace. But the arrangement would no doubt occasion much angry debate in Parliament, if it did not lead to a Ministerial crisis.

Messrs. Laird have sold their steam-rams to the Government, and the impending trial, which was looked forward to with great interest as likely to furnish an authoritative exposition of the Foreign Enlistment Act, is stopped in its initial stages. This issue will give general satisfaction. After the curious decision in the case of the Alexandra, it is at least doubtful whether the Government would have obtained a conviction in reference to the steam-rams. After what has happened, no British shipbuilder is likely to run the risk of constructing war-ships for the Confederates; and the purchase of the formidable rams by the Government will dissipate the irritation that has prevailed on the

other side of the Atlantic lest more vessels should be sent from British ports to prey upon Northern commerce.

Our columns this week record the last of the May anniversary meetings. The report of the Committee of the Aborigines Protection Society illustrates anew the need of such an organisation to sustain the rights of native races among aggressive European populations, and shows that its efforts during the past year have not been in vain. This society, we need hardly say, entirely repudiates the manifest-destiny theory so much affected by prominent politicians and ethnologists, and one of the resolutions adopted at the Exeter Hall meeting unequivocally rejects as blasphemous the popular sentiment that the destruction of the aborigines, "effected as it is by the worst passions of man, is really an ordination of Divine Providence." Conspicuous among the speakers was the Rev. Samuel Crowther, the Bishop Designate of the Niger—once a slave-boy—a missionary of "African blood and lineage"—"the foremost of that noble band which, through many long and weary years, has been labouring for the redemption of the negro race." His address on the occasion fully justifies the distinction which has been bestowed upon him, and forcibly stated the hindrances that beset missionary work in the colonies, owing to the ill-conduct of European residents. We are gratified to observe so many signs of vigorous activity in a society which is so well entitled to the support of British philanthropists.

The British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society at their annual meeting at the London Tavern had the opportunity of presenting a more encouraging report than on any former occasion. The summary of the various legislative measures adopted by the Federal States shows how irrevocably the North is now committed to the abolition of slavery. Not less than a million of slaves, it is stated, have been freed during the progress of the terrible civil war in America, and special attention is called to the noble letter of President Lincoln to the editor of a Kentucky paper as evidence of the sincerity of his anti-slavery policy. In Brazil, also, the movement for emancipation has taken a practical shape; and it is probable that a measure will, ere long, be passed by the Legislature of Rio de Janeiro, declaring free all slave children born after a specified date. Public opinion in that country is ripe for even a more decisive advance in the direction of slavery abolition. The Anti-Slavery Society is based upon the principle that the iniquity against which they especially protest is better assailed by public opinion than by armed squadrons, and that the abolition of slavery would effectually put an end to the slave-trade. In America, Brazil and Russia events are working mightily in their favour, and the review of the past year fully justifies the jubilant tone of the several speakers at last Friday's meeting.

## THE GREAT AMERICAN BATTLES.

THE soil of Virginia has again drunk the blood of thousands. Generals Grant and Lee have tried their own strategic skill, and the valour and strength of their respective armies, against each other. There have been five days' fighting, more or less, and the issue, at the latest date from the field, was still undecided. General Grant seems to have written no despatches, or, if he did, they have been suppressed. It is probable that he considered his immediate duty to his army more important than any attempt to allay the impatience of the public. Two brief despatches from General Lee have come to light, in which he claims to have had the advantage over his antagonist in the first two days of battle, which claims, however, are scarcely borne out by his acts. He was, certainly, on the third day, nearer to Richmond by twenty miles than he was on the second, and his assailant was also nearer the critical point in Lee's line of communications, and able to probe his position. This he appears to have done on the fourth day, and on the fifth the most sanguinary engagement of the war was fought, but with what success we are yet in ignorance.

The combined plan of Grant's advance upon Richmond, so far as we have any knowledge of that plan from public rumour, or as it can be guessed at from his disposition of the forces at his command, does not appear to have answered the General's expectation. A column under Generals Couch and Sigel was to have descended the Shenandoah Valley, and to have co-operated with Grant's army from the right. Of this column no information is given. Two columns were to have advanced upon Richmond from the east, one along the peninsular line traversed by McClellan, the other along the south side of the James River. The first has been so far unsuccessful that it has crossed the Chickahominy

River, and threatens Lee's communications. The second, under General Butler, has seized City Point and Fort Powhattan, forced the Blackwater, burnt the railroad bridge at Stony Creek, and cut in two General Beauregard's corps, below Petersburg, in consequence of which he says, "Lieutenant-General Grant will not be troubled with any reinforcements to Lee from Beauregard's forces." But the battles upon which the issue of the mighty struggle bids fair to turn were fought by the army under the immediate command of Grant.

The order to cross the Rapidan was given early on Tuesday, May 3rd, and was effected during the afternoon of that and the whole of the following day without molestation. Sedgwick commanded the left wing, Hancock the right, Warren the centre, and Burnside took the reserve. Each division was computed to be about 30,000 strong. On Thursday morning, May 5th, the whole army, with its supply trains, which had got safely across the river on Wednesday night, moved forward. They had hardly got into motion when it became known that Lee's army was advancing upon them. The right wing and centre were in line by eleven o'clock, the left had turned from its original line of march, and was ordered to take a cross road to complete the formation of the line of battle. Meanwhile, a detachment was pushed forward from the centre, to ascertain Lee's position and strength. They came upon the enemy after advancing about a mile and a half, and found him in unexpected force, and were driven back upon the main body with severe loss. It was then that General Lee discerned the weak point in the Federal line, and at once attempted to cut off Hancock, who had not had time to form. To relieve him from the peril in which he was placed, Sedgwick was ordered forward to attack, and the completion of the line of battle was accomplished by Hancock under a terrific fire of musketry. The dense underground of the country prevented the employment of artillery. The Federals lost about 1,000 men that day, but Grant had prevented Lee from crushing him before he had had time to mass his men after the passage of the Rapidan.

On the following day, Friday, May 6th, the struggle was resumed by an attack made upon the Federal right wing by the Confederates under the command of General Ewell. It was repulsed, and immediately the left was assailed by Longstreet. This attack was also repulsed after two hours' hard fight. The right was once more assailed by more formidable numbers, but a second time Ewell was driven back to his second line. From noon to five o'clock there was a succession of fierce assaults, but without any permanent change in the positions held by the combatants respectively. The day was excessively hot, and the men were exhausted. About half-past five, Longstreet, with troops newly arrived from Orange Court House, and Hill's corps, made a fierce rush upon the Federal left, forced it back, and threw Mott's division into confusion. The left centre was compelled by this movement to give way. There was danger of a break. But General Hancock ordered Colonel Carroll's brigade to form at right angles with his own line, and to sweep along the whole front of it, and so take the assailants in flank. The movement was executed with complete success, and the Confederates repulsed with terrible slaughter. The battle was not yet over. After sunset the Confederates made a new and fiercer attack. It was this time against Sedgwick. On his extreme right lay a part of his division under General Seymour, and they were at work intrenching themselves when the enemy fell upon them. The main line stood firm, but this division of it gave way. Sedgwick's flank was turned in less than ten minutes, and Seymour's brigade, panic-stricken, fled a mile and a half through the wood to a plank-road in their rear. Sedgwick, however, retrieved the honour of his corps, and maintained his position to the close. The last blow seemed designed only to cover Lee's retreat, which he effected in good order during the night.

We have no details beyond this. We only know that General Grant pushed forward in pursuit, and found his antagonist strongly posted at Spottsylvania Court-house, on the river Po, and that after heavy skirmishing on Sunday, May 8th, he attacked his enemy along his whole line on Tuesday, the 10th, the telegrams say, with no decisive result. That Lee has severely suffered there can be no doubt. Longstreet is severely wounded, Pegram badly so, and Jenkins is killed. On the other hand, Sedgwick is killed. The losses of officers and men on both sides must have been frightful if there be an approximation to the truth in the estimate which the Federals have given of their own—namely, above 40,000 men in killed, wounded and missing.

Speculation upon the probabilities of the result would be utterly useless and even absurd.



when all its conclusions may be set aside by the information brought by the next mail. Hitherto, however, the current of success appears to have been with the army under Grant. He awaits reinforcements, and Lee occupies a strong wooded position strengthened by earthworks. Even the *Times*, while holding to the insuperable difficulties of the enterprise, feels compelled to write less disparagingly of the Federal General and his army than has been its wont. We close our observations with its remarks on General Grant:—"For the first time in the history of this war a great battle has been followed by an immediate pursuit, bringing on another battle equally obstinate and bloody. Grant, though slightly worsted in the actions of the 6th, refused to quit his hold upon the enemy, or to plead any of the obvious excuses for suspending the operations of the campaign. It was this stubbornness of purpose which gained him his success at Vicksburg and his favour with the Northern people. They never thought him a military genius, but they believed him to be a most determined man—a man who would bring everything to the immediate issue of hard fighting, and who might either beat or be beaten, but who would never be hesitating or inactive. This estimate of his character he has fully justified. He has fought unceasingly, and has clung like a bulldog to his work. Nor can it be added that he has fought altogether in vain, for he has advanced as he proposed to advance, and is actually a few miles further on the road to Richmond."

#### A CORONER'S TWELVE MONTHS' EXPERIENCE.

To the great majority of our readers life no doubt flows onward in a tolerably even current. They are of course subject to the ills which flesh is heir to, and have their household skeletons,—family changes, sorrows, and bereavements, occasionally of a tragical hue, more often (in their eyes at least) tinged with romance. But their experience has not been of an unusual nature. Their social position and surroundings, their pursuits, education, and culture, alike tend to preserve them from danger to life and health, to warn them off adventurous paths, and to keep them free from scenes and situations worthy of public record. Their knowledge of crime is mainly drawn from police reports and books; of the struggles of penury and fatal calamities from newspaper revelations. We wonder how many of our readers have witnessed a criminal trial, visited a police-court, assisted at a coroner's inquest, or caught more than the most casual glimpse of the shady and tragical side of life?

These rather trite reflections have been suggested by a perusal of "The First Annual Report of the Coroner for the Central District of Middlesex, from August 1st, 1862, to July 31st, 1863,"\* just brought out by Dr. Edwin Lankester. For purposes of generalisation, the district within which his duties as coroner are so efficiently discharged, may be regarded as fairly representative of all our large towns, and as a microcosm in which we may see all the occult influences at work which affect society at large in all the great centres of population. It comprises the populous parishes of St. Pancras, Marylebone, Islington, Clerkenwell, Paddington, and St. Giles's, as well as others less densely-peopled, which contain people in every grade of society from the wealthy millionaire down to the wretched *proletaire*, with an aggregate population of over 800,000 souls. Amid this huge mass of human beings—one-fourth part of the inhabitants of the metropolitan area—the official duties of coroner are, as may be supposed, no sinecure. In fact, Dr. Lankester holds on the average three inquests a-day, all the year round—the total number for 1862-63 being 1,080, or one for every 746 of the population. Thus, almost more than any man, the coroner for Central Middlesex must be familiar with death in its varied and aggravated forms, and we can imagine how frequently his sympathising heart must be wrung by the proofs daily brought before him of crime, ignorance, and selfishness, the consummation of which is visible to his senses in so sad and awful a shape.

During the year 1862-3, the verdict of coroner's juries in Central Middlesex in 567 cases, or more than one-half of the whole, was, "Death from natural causes." But the analysis contained in the report leaves little room for satisfaction. However legally correct, the verdict in many instances might have more truly been "Death from unnatural causes." Under this head are included fatal causes of fever and other contagious diseases, the result of poverty and

squalor; of lung diseases, brought on by overcrowded dwellings; of disease of the heart—to which one-sixth of the whole fell victims—the result of excessive drinking; of exhaustion, often caused by wilful withholding of food; and of the exposure of infants by poor, unfeeling, or criminal parents. The remarks of Dr. Lankester would seem to imply that the greater part of these deaths were owing to preventable causes—intoxication indirectly carrying off the greater number of victims, and being the assigned cause of no less than eighteen inquests.

The "accidental deaths" are set down at 346. One fourth part of these were cases of suffocation of infants in bed or with the mother, owing to ignorance, carelessness, or neglect. "In a large number of cases," says the coroner, "suffocation occurs with first-born children. Their young and ignorant mothers are not aware of the nature and importance of fresh air for the life of their tender offspring, and in their anxiety to protect their children from the cold, they cover them over in bed in such a way as to prevent the access of fresh air, and the escape of the impure air and breath, and thus suffocate them. In a very large proportion of these cases the mother falls asleep with her babe upon her breast, and the child is thus suffocated in the act of sucking. Sometimes the child is found dead between the father and mother. In such a position, even when the clothes are adjusted before sleep comes on, the infant is likely to be easily covered over by the restlessness of either of its parents. Deaths of this kind also occur from children being wrapped up in shawls, or covered over with handkerchiefs." Taking this district as a specimen, the destruction of infant life by suffocation must be very large throughout Great Britain, and we find in it a very striking proof of the value of education, and of such bodies as the Ladies' Sanitary Association, in instructing the poor as to the proper management of children. In the other fatalities under this head drunkenness is again a primary cause, and the use of anodynes to quiet children frequently results in the destruction of life. Deaths from burns and scalds gave occasion to about one-fifth part of the inquests held by Dr. Lankester in the first year of his office. No less than sixteen women above twenty years of age were burnt to death—a melancholy fact which calls forth the following remark:—"I have no means at hand of comparing the frequency of burning among women since the fashion of wearing extended dresses has prevailed, but there is too much reason to fear, from the facts which are disclosed on inquests, that the present fashion has to answer for a large number of the deaths by burning, above ten years of age. A very painful reflection in connection with this cause of death is the fact that where one person is burned to death ten recover from the effects of burning. It is thus seen that upwards of one hundred persons are every day burned in England and Wales, of whom ten die." One hundred persons a day! Truly crinoline has slain its thousands; and if, as we must despairingly admit, there is no prospect that the present fatal fashion will soon be abandoned, it would still be possible, by the general use of fire-guards and unflamable dresses, to reduce to a minimum the liability to this most cruel of deaths.

Suicide furnished six per cent. of Dr. Lankester's inquests during 1862-3, the larger number of persons being over forty years of age, and poisoning being the prevailing agent. The coroner has no faith in the legislative prohibition of the sale of poison, for oxalic acid and cyanide of potassium, being articles of extensive use in various branches of industry, are easily procurable. It is added that "in a large number of cases, habits of intoxication have preceded the acts of suicide."

Table IX. contains particulars of sixty-eight inquests upon persons who were the victims of homicide, manslaughter, and infanticide. Dr. Lankester lays great stress upon the prevalence of the latter crime, owing to the difficulty of detection and the unwillingness of juries to return a verdict of wilful murder—the fearful nature of the penalty in this, as in other cases, defeating the intentions of justice. Out of the 1,080 deaths recorded, no less than sixty-eight are those of new-born infants whose lives have been designedly or accidentally sacrificed. Upon this he remarks:—"If we put down the number of lives wilfully sacrificed, at the number in which verdicts of wilful murder have been returned, it gives a fearful picture of the moral condition of the district in which it has occurred. It has been previously shown that the crime of infanticide is very much more frequent in some of the districts of Central Middlesex than in others, and it seems to be especially incumbent on the legislature to take up this question and ascertain if any existing feature of the law encourages this crime, or whether any new measure would promise a diminution. As far as my own observation goes, it would appear that

this crime is more frequent amongst women in domestic service than in any other class."

The glimpse which we thus obtain into some of the moral ailments that afflict society in one of the most populous of the metropolitan districts is painfully interesting. The tables Dr. Lankester has given are well adapted, in his own words, to "supply the statesman, the jurist, and the philanthropist with the facts that demonstrate the vast importance of the inquiries of the Coroner's Court in relation to the safety of life in the only country of Europe in which it exists in all its integrity," and they furnish reliable data in reference to some of those problems which perplex and distress social reformers. The pamphlet is a genuine contribution to social science, and goes far to justify the confidence of the friends of Dr. Lankester that in choosing him as coroner for the most important district of London they were putting the right man in the right place.

#### NOTES OF THE SESSION.

THE season seems to be getting the better of the Session. The House of Commons re-assembled on Thursday after the Whitsun holidays, and, having no particular business to transact, adjourned, after sitting for a couple of hours. On Friday Supply was the order of the day, but the Government was unable to keep together forty members in committee, and at half-past seven o'clock a count-out took place. On Monday, the State concert at Buckingham Palace was an irresistible attraction, and the business was hurried through, in order that the House might rise at about the same hour as on Friday, provision having been made for leisure to celebrate the Queen's birthday and go to the Derby by an adjournment to Thursday. The Lords, taking a longer holiday than the Lower House, did not meet again till Monday, and then only about a dozen peers could be mustered to discuss a measure so important to the interests of the working classes, as the County Courts Amendment Bill. The *Times* deems it necessary to apologise for the negligence of Parliament; but whatever fault there be rests principally with the Government, which places so little business before the Legislature, and sedulously avoids grappling with all questions, however important, which would be likely to endanger its existence. The great object of the present Session would seem to be to keep Lord Palmerston in power, and put off to its most distant date the inevitable dissolution.

On Friday night, Lord Palmerston being able once more to take his seat, Mr. Baxter called attention to our dangerous policy in China, objecting to it as bad in principle, as unlikely to be attended with success, and as involving us in the most serious difficulties. He showed from the published despatches that the alleged neutrality of the Government had not been observed, and that we were upholding in China a tottering dynasty which had no hold upon the affections of the people, and had been guilty of acts of perfidy and barbarous cruelty—a dynasty "the corruption of whose authorities," wrote Sir F. Bruce in 1860, "was only checked by its weakness." Lord Palmerston made a characteristic reply, asserting that the "ragamuffin" Taepings were in much more danger of being overthrown than the Imperial Government, and that it was desirable for the sake of our commercial interests that the Tartar dynasty should be preserved. But his lordship had nothing to say relative to the suppression of a memorandum by the British ambassador, showing the impolicy of our proceedings in China, and complaining of the employment of British officers in the Imperial service. But while defending the Home Government and expressing his preference for the Imperialists—whom his own envoy describes as the most corrupt, treacherous, and cruel Government on the face of the earth—Lord Palmerston announced that it was not the intention of the Government in future to authorise any direct interference in the military or naval service of China as between the Imperial Government and the Taepings, beyond the protection to be afforded within a radius around our treaty ports, and that no more expeditions like that of Capt. Osborn's would be sanctioned. So far well; but the vigorous defence set up by the Premier of interference in the domestic affairs of China, shows how necessary it is that Parliament should exercise the utmost vigilance in preventing this country from being again involved.

It came out last week, through the *Times*, that England is at war with the King of Ashantee, on the west coast of Africa, to please the fancy of Governor Pine, who has taken it into his head to despatch troops to the defence of certain intermediate petty chiefs who do not desire our protection. A West India regiment has been sent

\* London: Emily Faithfull, Victoria Press, 14, Princes-street, Hanover-square.



against this sable African monarch, who has wisely left our soldiers to contend with the pestilential climate of the interior, under which they are being decimated. The King of Ashantee has nothing to fear; for out of a force of 400 men encamped on the river Poah, 200 had been placed *hors de combat* by the climate, and not above 80 of them were deemed capable of carrying a musket into the field if an action had taken place. The cost of carrying out this criminal enterprise is at the rate of 12,000*l.* or to 14,000*l.* a-month to the Imperial exchequer. A recital of these facts in the House of Commons on Friday by Sir John Pakington excited no little indignation, and Mr. Cardwell promptly replied that the Colonial Office had taken measures for withdrawing our troops from the interior of the country, and was placing the defence of the Poah in the hands of those native chiefs whose duty and interest it was to protect their own territories from hostile incursions, and leaving the King of Ashantee unmolested. It would have been more satisfactory if the announcement had also been made that Governor Pine had been recalled. It is the immunity enjoyed by our representatives abroad that alone renders possible the waging of such disgraceful wars as that carried on against the King of Ashantee.

A measure of great social importance was discussed in the House of Lords on Monday. Notwithstanding the many advantages of county courts, they have been perverted to uses alien to the intentions of the Legislature. So great are the facilities they offer, that creditors for small amounts very extensively save themselves much trouble by using these courts for the collection of their debts. Goods are recklessly sold, and even forced upon the labouring population by small shopkeepers and hawkers with the full conviction that the terrors of imprisonment, if the judgment of the county court be not complied with, will ensure ultimate payment. As the law stands, the unhappy debtor may be imprisoned a dozen times in the course of his six years' liability if the claim or any part of the claim of his creditor has not been met. In this way a system of reckless credit has sprang up. The Lord Chancellor has brought in a Bill proposing to do away with imprisonment for debts under 20*l.*, except in cases of fraud and false pretences to limit the time in which debts may be recoverable to one year, and to exclude beer-house bills from the jurisdiction of county courts. There are other important provisions to which we need not now advert. The Bill was read a second time on Monday without opposition, but it is evident, from the hostile criticism it encountered, that the Lord Chancellor will have to submit to considerable alterations in committee, though there was a general admission that some legislation on the subject was urgently required. The Lord Chancellor says that under the existing state of things not only is the poor debtor demoralised, but his family are pauperised, and heavy burdens are thrown upon the public; Lord St. Leonards describes Lord Westbury's remedy as a Bill for stopping the credit of the labouring classes. But is that credit a real boon to them? It will be no easy matter to reconcile these widely-divergent views.

#### BRILLIANT MORNINGS.

"Up, get up, 'tis a glorious morning," were the words which came after a thundering salute at our bedchamber door. It was truly so—one of the most brilliant, if not the most promising mornings of the season—for brilliant mornings are not always promising, but, as the over-lustrous eyes of a sweet-faced maiden betoken disease, they often shade off into gloomy days. The east wind had gone. The atmosphere, for several days blue-black with a perpetual haze, was translucent. The well-timbered tops of the green slopes which could be seen above the roofs of the houses opposite, stood out in distinct outline and colour from the pale blue sky. There was a balminess in the air which was quite "the novel of the spring," as one might say, and "sensational," too. Away! to the top of the garden—not the bottom of it, good reader, for it rises upward from the house in smooth-shaven lawn until it has reached a considerable height, and commands, at the summit, not merely bowered shade, but an extensive, varied, and charming prospect in view of which your soul dilates, and seems to have space enough to exercise itself freely. Thither we mount with shortening breath and genial anticipation to enjoy a quiet meditative hour before breakfast. Ah! just the very change we have so long sighed for, but sighed in vain. The spring-time had, up to the day of which we speak, hardly brought out the thorough enjoyableness of our out-door retreat. The set of the wind had been easterly and northerly, and that, with us at least, thickens the

air as well as chills it. But this morning, what a grateful contrast! The vane on the summer-house points due west—hardly a breath of wind stirs—and miles away, the fields and trees and spires and villas are as distinct, and make up as charming a picture as eye or heart can wish.

Shortlived the glory, alas! The vision rapidly fades. The horizon closes in. The lustre of the landscape grows dimmer and dimmer. How is this? What has happened within the last few minutes that the scene should so soon have become smudged, and that the atmosphere should resume the old look of dirtiness? Can it be? We look up once more at the vane, and ruefully observe that the north-east wind has skipped back again. He had not gone away for good—only for a short holiday, and has returned more vigorous than ever—the stronger, we suppose, for his little trip. And so the mists rise up in haste to greet him and wait upon him, and they would seem by their dingy hue to have passed through London on their way. They settle down upon everything. They fill up all vacant space. Our pleasant picture has gone—all its lines of beauty, and its harmonies of colour, and its varied suggestiveness, and its breadth and depth, all are obliterated. The very birds are evidently disappointed, and drop the blitheness of their songs into a semblance of oburgation. We sit and try to flatter ourselves that the change is but a momentary one—a mere freak which will presently give place to something better. But it lasts. There it is after breakfast—there it is after dinner—there it is in the evening—there it is next day, and next and next. Haze and mist—mist mingled with smoke—opaque, ungenial, persistent. It is a case for patience. You put your joyousness back upon the shelf again along with your summer clothing—and you accept with such resignation as you can muster another spell of sullen weather during which dame Nature tells you plainly enough that she is out of humour and doesn't want your company.

Brilliant mornings! Well, we are getting to be almost superstitious in our mistrust of brilliant mornings. We know very well that it is not only silly, but often something deserving a sterner epithet, to generalise from the few particulars which fall within the range of personal experience, and leap headlong to conclusions whenever they chance to fall in with your own mood. Are there no hopeful beginnings that, even in this life, fulfil expectations? Do we not, to a considerable extent, make our own disappointments, and generate the mists which obscure our own prospects? Nevertheless, there is some ground for hesitation in the welcome we give to flattering promises—or, more correctly perhaps, for backwardness in relying upon first appearances. It may be that in our present stage of discipline, our natures are mostly so compounded as to disclose their better tendencies in early life, and to reveal to none but the keenest and most experienced observers the antagonisms with which those tendencies must needs wrestle, and possibly be thrown in the encounter, in order to pass up to the higher forms of settled character. At any rate, there are comparatively few who have reached the grand climacteric who cannot look back upon so many buds of hope blighted in their fresh beauty, that they regard every new one with trembling rather than with joy. Happy are they whose experience has not thus cast a shadow over their anticipations!

In the matter of physical health, for instance, how frequently do brilliant mornings pass into a cloudy, perhaps a tempestuous day! Childhood and even adolescence are positively effervescent with a spirit which nothing can repress. There is light in the eye, bloom on the cheeks, elasticity in the nerves, sunshine in the temperament. Presently, to the surprise of everybody, some seed of disease, casual or hereditary, begins to develop its morbid power. You hope to root it out of the too congenial soil in which it has quickened. You would cheerfully give all the wealth that you possess to be successful in your attempt. You fail. Where you had anticipated a vigorous manhood, lusty, hearty, brimful of energetic life, joyous to the owner of it, helpful to yourself, there is instead a progressive debility, a call for endurance, a touching claim on sympathy. Oh that it might prove to be as the morning cloud which soon passes away! You keenly watch for any sign that the mist will dissolve, and the well-remembered brightness reappear. As the day wears on, you find it settling into thick gloom. Patience comes to the relief of worn-out hope. Change for the better is out of the question. You give up expecting. You accept the appointed lot—and you seek, and you may find, compensation in other sources.

Indeed, it would be easy to fill up three times the space assigned to us in these columns with variations of the theme with which we have opened. Precocious children, for instance, furnish a well-known class of illustrations showing how brilliant mornings merge into humdrum days, if not into something still more disagreeable. People born to princely fortunes and getting through them before they can fairly claim to have reached maturity—men whose schemes open propitiously, dazzlingly, and collapse after a while into mere shreds and remnants which it is hardly worth their pains to gather up and preserve; orators, musicians, actors, writers, whose earliest efforts awaken special wonder and extravagant expectations, and whose subsequent career presents a mournful contrast to the hopefulness of its outset—and, alas! young persons of both sexes whose morality has shone out lustrously until soiled and perhaps wrecked by contact with the world—these are but trite examples of the evanescence of the brilliant mornings of life, and, as we have intimated, they may be varied to any extent. But *cui bono*? We have seldom seen much good effected by dwelling upon the mere uncertainties of human existence. Experience soon corrects the excesses of too implicit a confidence in the continuance of bright seasons—and there is a sense in which the advice, "live while you live," is salutary and wise. He who shuts himself up in his inner chamber and declines to be gladdened by brilliant mornings because ten to one they will not be followed by sunny days, is as ungrateful as he is foolish.

After all, character, which is far preferable to endowments, is usually better formed and more equably ripened by checks, and contrarieties, and struggles and disappointments than by the enjoyable incidents and seasons of experience. Not that these latter are to be held cheap, by any means. They, too, have their uses, and may be made to contribute much towards the object of life. They often tend to qualify the heart for receiving some of the most precious lessons of adversity. The recollection of them softens and renders it impressible, and it often occurs that hope lives on for awhile, as Elijah lived by the brook Cherith, fed by the means of sustenance brought to it by memory. Our pleasant, merry childhood is sometimes the best ministering angel to our more toilsome and gloomier age. The thoughts that we carry with us from the glad scenes of our youth serve to sweeten our souls when surrounded by more trying conditions. Let us not therefore feel or speak cynically of brilliant mornings. But neither let us, when they have disappeared, imagine that life has ceased to be worth much because its noontide has become overcast. Many influences, seemingly the most opposite to one another, are needed to fit us for the work we have to do, and the sphere we may be destined to inherit. A life all sunshine is but a dull, tedious, monotonous life at best. We have no reason to regret that in the present stage of our being at least, the heavens are occasionally covered with thick cloud, are now and then rent with conflict and tempest. We are passing through a process the uncongenial features of which are, to the full, as necessary as those which suit our wishes, and are often more permanently profitable to us. It is but an initiatory process—but, if wisely availed of, it will adapt us for that higher development of our being and our lot, in which our course shall be as "the shining light, which shineth more and more unto the perfect day."

STATE OF LANCASHIRE.—At the meeting of the Central Executive Committee on Monday, at Manchester, Mr. Maclure reported that between the 23rd ult. and the 14th inst., 13,916 persons had ceased to receive relief from the boards of guardians. The monthly report stated that the recipients of relief were 55,000 fewer in April than in February, and "79 of the 172 places" reported upon as relief districts had been enabled "entirely to suspend operations." These cheering indications had been accompanied by the absorption of many factory operatives in other trades within the cotton districts, and the dispersion of large numbers to external seats of labour.

THE MATLOCK WILL CASE.—The extraordinary will case at Derby, which was decided a few months ago by the Lord Chief Justice and a jury refusing to believe that a Mr. Else could have found three different wills of his employer, Mr. Nuttall, in succession, each giving him more of the deceased's property, while by the last the relatives were ousted altogether, appears again before the public. More papers have been found, all tending to confirm the wills and codicils which the jury declared to be spurious. This time they were not found by Mr. Else, but by a man to whom he sold old Mr. Nuttall's bed, within some recess of which the papers were curiously concealed. It makes rather against the veracity of the story, however, that this bed has been in Mr. Else's possession and at his disposal from the death of Mr. Nuttall till now.—*Standard*.



## Foreign and Colonial

## THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

## SANGUINARY BATTLES IN VIRGINIA.

Intelligence from New York comes down to the 10th inst., by telegram to the 12th.

The army of the Potomac crossed the Rapidan at Ely's and Germania Forda without opposition at midnight on the 3rd and the morning of the 4th. It was assailed by General Lee in great force, the object being to crush the advancing columns before they were in position, or within supporting distance of each other. The shock was so severe and the issue so doubtful that the reserves under Burnside had to be ordered up. They arrived in time, and saved the fortune of the day. The number of killed and wounded on the Federal side amounted, according to Federal authority, to upwards of 8,000. One peculiarity of the encounter was that no artillery was brought into play. The ground, near and in advance of the former battlefield of Chancellorsville, where Hooker lost the day, and his reputation along with it, was so thickly wooded that cannon could not be used on either side, and the conflict was hand to hand, with the bayonet or the rifle. How stubborn it must have been is evident from the number of the killed and wounded, which, if at all balanced on the Confederate side, would not fall short of 16,000. The battle, like that of the subsequent day, was fought in a place called the "Wilderness." Both sides claim the victory, General Lee on behalf of the Confederates, and Mr. Stanton on behalf of the Federals, for General Grant himself sent no despatch or it has been suppressed. The fighting was renewed on Friday at daybreak. The battle raged for fourteen hours with scarcely an interval of rest, still in the thickly-wooded, stabbly, and thorny region stretching from Chancellorsville to Mine Run. The carnage is described to have been more awful than in any previous battle of the war, and to have been attended with a loss of 12,000 men to the Federals and as many to the Confederates. General Lee, in an address to his army which found its way to the possession of General Butler, and was by him forwarded to Mr. Stanton, claims the victory on this, the second encounter, and thanks a merciful God that every advance on Grant's part had been gallantly and successfully repulsed. It appears from General Lee's admission that General Longstreet—who is almost as much beloved and confided in by the Southern army as General Stonewall Jackson used to be—was severely wounded, and General Jenkins killed. On the Federal side General Wadsworth, formerly the military commandant of Washington, and competitor with Mr. Horatio Seymour, in the autumn of 1862, for the Governorship of the State of New York, was shot in the forehead while leading his division, and instantaneously slain, and General Webb, son of the United States Minister in Brazil, was seriously wounded. Mr. Stanton reports to Major-General Dix, for the information of the people of New York, "that the general result of the battle" of Friday "may be considered as a success to our arms," and adds that "the fighting was the most desperate known in modern times." The *Tribune* correspondent and other eye-witnesses do not claim as much success as Mr. Stanton, but state that the contest was indecisive. On Saturday morning there was slight skirmishing, but no general engagement; both sides, doubtless, discovered that such a tangled wild wood as that in which they had been murdering each other from behind the shelter of trees and bushes for the previous two days was not adapted to victory, or to anything else but unavailing slaughter. At noon on that day it was discovered that the Confederates had retired, and Mr. Stanton publishes, on the authority of a bearer of despatches from Meade's army, that the retrograde movement commenced on the mid-night of Friday. It was no sooner known to the Federals than a pursuit was ordered. Lee fell back towards the strong lines of the North Anna, and was followed—it does not appear how closely, by the division under General Hancock.

For subsequent news we are indebted to the following telegrams:—

May 11, 6 a.m.

Mr. Stanton reports that in General Grant's despatches, dated the 9th, afternoon, it is stated that Lee made a stand at Spottsylvania Court-house. Hard fighting occurred, but no general engagement ensued. General Sedgwick was killed by sharpshooters. On the 9th Grant showed no signs of renewing the attack, being engaged in replenishing his stores from the supply train, in order to be able to advance without that encumbrance. Generals Getty, Talbot, Morris, Robinson, and Baxter, have been wounded.

Correspondents state the 5th Federal army corps to have been engaged on the 8th instant, three miles north of Spottsylvania Court-house, with General Ewell and part of Longstreet's corps, which had reached Spottsylvania by an inner road. The Federals held their position, but suffered heavily in killed and wounded. Grant is reported to be two miles north of Spottsylvania Court-house, with Lee in his front, Ewell holding the heights north of that place. Grant's losses are now estimated at 27,000 men.

May 12 (Morning).

On the 10th instant General Grant fought another sanguinary battle with Lee, which lasted from the afternoon until dark. Grant's lines extended six miles along the north-east bank of the River Po; the Confederates occupying the south-east bank and the village of Spottsylvania. The attack was commenced by the artillery of General Grant. Towards dark Burnside was ordered to charge the Confederate right flank, when it was discovered that Lee had advanced round the Federal

right flank, and was moving down to break through Grant's lines, and had captured the supply trains in the Fredericksburg plank road. This checked Burnside's intended movement, and he held his ground threatening the Confederate right, whilst the 6th corps charged the Confederate centre, driving the enemy from their first line of rifle-pits and capturing 2,000 prisoners. In consequence of Lee's movement Grant placed his troops about, and having moved his trains to the rear, secured a new position for his artillery, but Lee did not follow up the movement. During the night he was reported to be moving.

On the 11th Burnside advanced, and occupied Spottsylvania Court-house, driving Hill's corps before him.

Grant's losses are now estimated to have reached 40,000 in killed, wounded, and missing. General Warren is reported to be killed.

NEW YORK, May 12 (Evening).

No report has been received of the battle being renewed at Spottsylvania on the 11th. Lee is reported to be in a very strong position behind earthworks and woods. The occupation of Spottsylvania by Burnside has not been confirmed. The Federal depot for the wounded is at Fredericksburg.

President Lincoln, on the 9th, issued a proclamation stating that sufficient was known of the Federal operations to give cause for special gratitude to God, and recommending all patriots to return thanks to Him. Congratulatory visits were paid by the Washington citizens to the President, when he made a speech, in which he said that although Grant had met with stubborn resistance, he was not forced back from the line of operations on which he had started, but was advancing on the line he had marked out before the movement commenced.

Simultaneously with General Meade's movement, Generals Couch and Sigel were to advance through the Shenandoah Valley with the supposed object of attacking Lynchburg, or making a *détour* towards Richmond.

Generals Baldy, Smith, and Butler, also marched on the line of the James River towards Fort Darling. We have news that Fort Powhattan, Wilson's Wharf, and City Point, on the James River, had been occupied by General Butler without resistance, and on the 9th the same General reports that he had advanced up the Peninsula with 1,700 coloured cavalry, crossing the Chickahominy, to take up positions as the Federals advanced on Richmond. 3,000 cavalry from Suffolk crossed the Blackwater River and burned the railroad bridge below Petersburg, thereby separating Beauregard's forces at Petersburg. One portion of Beauregard's forces was beaten by Butler after severe fighting. Butler had ordered up supplies, saying he could hold his position against Lee's whole army. He says Grant will not be troubled with reinforcements to Lee from Beauregard.

Under date of the 11th we read:—"It is reported that General Butler was engaged yesterday, and that an engagement also took place between the iron-clads on James River."

The *Times* telegram of the 12th states:—"Nothing further has been heard of General Butler, and fears begin to be entertained by the Federals that he will be unable to hold his position."

We also read that:—"A bearer of despatches relates that on Saturday last Butler narrowly escaped capture by a Confederate reconnoitring party."

One Federal gunboat was blown up by a torpedo, and another sunk by a shot from a Confederate battery on James River on the 6th.

General Sherman had also advanced from Chattanooga, occupied Tunnel-hill, but found Johnston's position at Resaca too strong for attack.

The premium on gold, which was seventy-three when Grant began his march, and which fell to sixty-nine at one period, had risen to seventy-seven at the latest news, and was seventy-five at the departure of the mail.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Forrest has been defeated at Bolivar, Tennessee, by Sturges, who pursued him into Mississippi.

General Neal Dow is seriously ill. His sickness is attributed to the hardships and sufferings which he endured while a prisoner of war.

It is stated that the subscriptions at New York to the United States Sanitary Fund for the sick and wounded and prisoners in the American army have reached 14,000,000 dollars.

Vicksburg advices of the 25th ult. state that the banks of the Red River swarmed with Confederate sharpshooters, accompanied by artillery, who attacked every passing vessel. During Admiral Porter's retreat to Alexandria he was obliged to destroy thirteen of his gunboats and transports to prevent capture. The Confederates have also appeared in force on both banks of the Mississippi at Vicksburg, and threatened to attack that city.

The Confederate Generals Marmaduke and Price were marching upon Little Rock, Arkansas, to dislodge General Steele. The Confederates boast that Federal power in that State will now be entirely overthrown, and Steele's whole force captured.

The New York Chamber of Commerce had appointed a committee to receive subscriptions to pay the interest of the State debt to foreigners in coin.

Southern accounts from Charleston, dated May 6th, state that the Federals threw 395 mortar shells at Fort Sumter on the 5th, and were shelling the city at intervals.

A riot of females is said to have occurred in Savannah, Georgia. They seized all the food they could find, but were finally quelled by the police.

General R. S. Cauby had been appointed to supersede General Banks in the command of all the troops west of the Mississippi.

## FRANCE.

Baron von Beust was received by the Emperor Napoleon on Saturday. His excellency also paid a visit to M. Drouyn de Lhuys. The *Constitutionnel*, in an article upon the Danish question, says:—

The Dano-German conflict is, above all, a question of nationalities. The aspirations and interests of those nationalities which gave rise to the conflict should therefore be satisfied by a definitive solution. Holstein is German, and half of Schleswig is German. It is therefore not astonishing that a project exists to unite the German portion of Schleswig with Holstein.

The *Constitutionnel* then shows the inconveniences that would arise from the system of a personal union between that new State and Denmark, and concludes:—

It appears difficult to understand why the populations should not be summoned to decide upon a Government, and it is probable that they would then choose a German Sovereign. France has done nothing to bring about this solution, but it is evident that it is not in opposition to her policy.

The Emperor Napoleon is understood to have formally offered himself as a candidate for the vacant chair of Mechanics, in the Academy of Sciences.

Four steam-frigates were being prepared at Marseilles for the conveyance of troops to Algeria.

The *Moniteur* acknowledges that the insurrection in Algeria has its source in a religious movement, and that there is a certain connection between the conduct of the Tunis insurgents showing that the same influence affects both insurrections. Many of the native chiefs were under the impression that France would become engaged in a general war in 1864; and the *Moniteur* adds that some of the native chiefs are perfectly well acquainted regarding events which take place in Europe.

## DENMARK AND GERMANY.

The conclusion of an armistice caused considerable dissatisfaction in Copenhagen, and led to the retirement of the Minister of War. There are various accounts of the exactions of the Prussians in Jutland. Thus, General Bornstedt, at Wiborg, on the 13th imposed a contribution in kind. Upon the refusal of the local authorities to give the articles demanded without payment, he threatened to take them by armed force, and to throw the Committee of Provisions into prison. The *Dagblad* demands the resumption of the blockade as a reprisal for the breach of the armistice.

According to accounts from Vienna, in Wednesday's sitting of the Conference Austria and Prussia demanded a complete autonomy of the Duchies, their personal union with Denmark, material guarantees, and especially the maintenance of the point of view held by the Federal Diet on the succession question. This latter point induced Baron Von Beust to give in his adhesion to the proposal of the German Plenipotentiaries. It is asserted that Russia is not averse to this proposition.

According to another account, Denmark has rejected the idea of a personal union. The Paris correspondent of the *Morning Post* says that intelligence from an authentic source has reached Paris from London to the effect that the British Government has virtually agreed to allow the German Powers to settle the question of the Duchies by reuniting them in personal union to the Crown of Denmark. This "authentic source" says that the majority of the English Cabinet are "under high influences which favour German interests and peace, as opposed to supporting the rights of Denmark and war." In a despatch to Count Bernstorff, the Prussian Minister in London, Herr von Bismarck announces that the Prussian Government had resolved to abandon the treaty of 1852 as a basis of arrangement, and felt justified in discussing any other combination that may be entirely independent of that treaty.

The *Oesterreichische Zeitung* proposes that the sittings of the conference should be transferred to Brussels, on account of the insults offered to Germany by the English Parliament and the press of London, which city it considers not to be neutral.

The Duke of Augustenburg, in addressing a deputation that has presented him with the resolutions passed at a recent meeting at Rendsburg, spoke of the painful position in which he and the Duchies had been placed by being obliged to remain spectators "of the exploits of others." "Never," he said, "will a King of Denmark again reign over this country." "The present war," he says, "by whatever name one pleases to call it, is in its nature and origin a war of succession."

The King of Prussia has had presented to him a petition, bearing 30,000 signatures, in favour of Schleswig-Holstein being made an independent state. His Majesty complacently assured the deputation which waited upon him that he would take measures for preventing Danish oppressions or disturbances of the peace, and that this was the object for which the allies were striving in the conference now sitting in London.

The Crown Prince of Prussia has been appointed to the command of the Second Army Corps. He has left for Stettin to assume the command. Field-Marshal von Wrangel has been raised to the rank of a count, and it is said that Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia has been appointed Commander-in-Chief in the Duchies.

## RUSSIA.

The Emperor Alexander has issued a letter to the Grand Duke Michael, thanking him for having accomplished the complete pacification of the Caucasus.



The Emperor speaks of the extermination of the Circassians as a glorious work.

#### BELGIUM.

The Ministerial crisis has terminated, all the Ministers having withdrawn their resignations. The Chamber of Deputies has been convoked for the 31st. inst.

The Duchess of Brabant has been confined with a son.

#### ITALY.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies has ordered an inquiry into current rumours charging certain deputies with bribery in reference to the South Italian Railway Company.

A meeting of workmen has just taken place in Turin for the purpose of thanking the English people for their reception of Garibaldi. The portrait of the General and that of Victor Emmanuel were placed side by side, crowned with laurels and surrounded with flags in the national colours. Victor Emmanuel was present at the meeting, and all eyes were repeatedly turned to the seat he occupied. The proceedings lasted two hours, five thousand persons being present. The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

The meeting considering that the English people by their reception of Garibaldi have done homage to the virtues of the great citizen, and to the principles of liberty, and the unity of Italy, to which he has devoted his life, thanks the English people, and especially the English operatives. The meeting offers up the most ardent vows for the liberation of Rome and Venice, and desires that this object may be attained by legal meetings, and by properly employing all the active forces of the nation. The meeting decides that the address of the English workmen shall be engraved upon stone, and ultimately be sent to Rome.

Victor Emmanuel listened, it is said, with interest to the various speeches that preceded these resolutions, in some of which his Government was not always treated with much tenderness. At the close of the proceedings he nevertheless said: "It is not time wasted to hear the people talk about their own affairs."

#### THE PRINCIPALITIES.

The conference sitting in Constantinople upon the subject of the convents in the Principalities has decided upon the nomination of a special commission to examine the titles to property of the secularised institutions. Prince Couza has been invited to attend the conference.

A conspiracy has been discovered to overthrow the Government of Prince Couza and effect the separation of the Principalities, with a return to the former régime. This news, which was published on the morning fixed for the plebiscite under the new electoral law, caused a profound sensation. The voting was commenced by the populace amid loud cheering for the Prince.

#### ALGERIA.

According to despatches received in Marseilles the Algerian insurrection appears to be spreading. A severe engagement took place on the 14th between some French troops and a large body—2 500 it is stated—of the insurgents. After a long combat the latter were repulsed. The French squadron in the Mediterranean has received orders to hold itself in readiness to go to Tunis, as its presence may be necessary in consequence of the disturbance there. It is mentioned in the Algerian news that the Duke of Malakoff has been taken seriously ill.

#### ABYSSINIA.

The Emperor Theodore of Abyssinia is in heavy difficulties. Advice received in Paris announces that complete anarchy prevails in the monarch's dominions, and that he is hemmed in by his rebellious subjects. This is the African sovereign who professes to be a Christian, and was in brotherly communication not long since with the Duke of Saxe-Coburg.

#### CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Governor Wodehouse had returned to Grahamstown, having declined to arbitrate between the Free State and Basutos in their boundary line dispute, because the Free State Volksraad would not give him unfettered discretion, they stipulating that the Warden boundary line of 1849 should be maintained entirely. The Governor proposed to assist in suppressing the frontier cattle-thefts by rigorously enforcing the pass system upon all frontier travellers without distinction of race, character, or colour.

The Mission in the Moselikats country was progressing favourably. The missionaries were about to make an application to the old chief for permission to establish a station in Matabele country.

#### INDIA.

The Governor-General had left Calcutta for Simla. The bill providing for the solemnisation of marriage in India of persons professing the Christian religion had been passed, and received the confirmation of the Viceroy. The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company have determined to reduce their rates of passage-money between Bombay and England, from 100l. to 85l., from the 9th of June. It was currently reported that Sir Charles Trevelyan would proceed to England in December next, and that his successor would be Mr. Forster, one of her Majesty's Finance Commissioners.

#### CHINA.

A telegram from Shanghai, of April 9, says:—"The Imperialists have been repulsed at Kintang. Major Gordon was wounded, and several of his officers were killed or taken prisoners. The Imperialists are recovering from this reverse, and are again moving to attack Kintang. They are receiving large reinforcements. The rebels are believed to be hemmed in."

#### FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

An insurrection had broken out at Hayti, but had been suppressed by President Geffard.

England has concluded a convention with the Viceroy of Egypt for the passage of English troops.

The Emperor and Empress of Russia are expected at the Prussian Court on the 9th June. Their Majesties will remain at Potsdam two days.

Italian journals assert that the Papal Government has interdicted the entrance of the Duke of Sutherland into any of the ports belonging to the Papal States.

According to the Russian registers the number of Poles transported to Siberia up to February last was 87,000. General Berg, alarmed at the effects of the Emancipation Committees in the provinces, intends recalling them to Warsaw.

SPANISH POLITICS.—It is asserted that the Progressist Committee will be dissolved on account of the impossibility of effecting a reconciliation between Marshal Espartero and Senor Olozaga.

THE NEW ZEALAND CHIEFS.—Some little amusement and considerable disgust has been occasioned here and throughout New Zealand generally, at the imposition which has been practised by Mr. Jenkins, of Nelson, on the English public, and even on Royalty itself. The natives taken home by Mr. Jenkins were, as is well known here, of the lowest and most degraded class. One of the principal "chiefs" was a well-known horse-stealer and thief in the Wangarei district, and the women were equally loose and dissolute. The whole affair was most disgraceful, and a libel on the natives themselves, presenting a parcel of *tutua*, or common fellows, as chiefs and chieftainesses.—*Daily Southern Cross*.

THE HEALTH OF THE POPE.—The state of the Pope's health is variously described. The *Evening Monitor* states that letters received from Rome to the 14th represent a great improvement as having taken place in Pio's condition, and intimate that he is soon likely to resume the granting of audiences. On the other hand, the *Opinion Nationale* professes to have received despatches from Rome to the 16th inst., which describe the Pope's illness as having increased to an alarming degree. According to this journal, a secret Pontifical bull is reported to have been issued, ordering a conclave composed only of the cardinals present in Rome for the election of a successor to Pio before the death of the latter should become known to the public.

A PRUSSIAN PROJECT.—The *Paris Presse* says that the Prussian Government is urging, as a condition of peace, the construction of a canal connecting the Baltic with the Northern Sea. "This canal," says the French journal, "is the Baltic free; it is a considerable step towards the liberty of the seas. But this canal suppresses the sovereignty of Denmark over the Sound and over the Belts, and it takes from that country the keys of the Baltic to put them into the hands of Europe. Consequently, how can Denmark, remaining master of the Duchies, consent to this great work? It would be something like suicide. If, then, we ask the emancipation of the Duchies, it is because this emancipation alone can give us the canal from the Baltic to the Northern Sea. What a victory for civilization!"

THE MISSION TO BHOOTAN.—The *Times* has a letter written (March 5) from the camp of the Hon. A. Eden when he was on his way to the capital of Bhootan, on the mission which has terminated so ill. It describes the extraordinary hardships to which the party—four Europeans and 200 coolies—were subjected in the course of their journey, and especially in the mountain pass which divides Ha from Paro. "We were warned (says the writer) that to stop there was certain death, so we forced ourselves on, twenty in advance—forced our bodies through the snow though we were so exhausted with fatigue and want of food. We took the work by turns, and so laboured all night. I never knew such a night of fatigue and anxiety in my life; in fact, I never imagined it. The lives of 200 men being in the balance, the whole four of us had to work like coolies. I had myself to carry a coolie for some distance on my back to save his life, and again a load to relieve another. We were hoarse and speechless at last with shouting and encouraging the poor coolies. We—I mean the four European gentlemen—stood it out wonderfully. We did not reach the village at the foot of the pass till 1 a.m., and, thanks to Providence, all the coolies safe, though some were badly frostbitten." We learn by the last Indian mail that Mr. Eden has returned to Darjeeling from his mission to Bhootan, where he was grossly insulted in public durbar by the chief, and dismissed with great indignity, after having been compelled to sign a treaty making over to them the whole of Assam, including the tea-estates held by Europeans, which are to be taken over at a valuation.

THE NEGRO MASSACRES.—The New York papers publish in *extenso* the report of the sub-committee of Congress on the massacre of Fort Pillow. Messrs. Wade and Gooch, the sub-committee, went to Memphis, Tennessee, and Fort Pillow, on purpose to take testimony. In addition to the mere wholesale slaughter of soldiers drawn up in line after being taken prisoners, the committee report that neither women nor children were spared. "Some of the

children not more than ten years old were forced to stand up and face their murderers while being shot. The sick and wounded were butchered without mercy, the rebels even entering the hospital buildings and dragging them out to be shot, or killing them as they lay there unable to offer the least resistance." All the cry was, "Kill the damned niggers!" and prayers for mercy were answered by taunts as well as bullets. "One man was deliberately fastened down to the floor of a tent face upwards by nails driven through his clothes and into the boards under him, so that he could not possibly escape, and then the tent was set on fire. Another was nailed to the side of a building outside the fort, and then the building was set on fire and burned. The charred remains of five or six bodies were afterwards found." The committee state that all their evidence is derived from eye-witnesses—mostly from the few sufferers who escaped whom they examined in hospital. Massacre appears a part of General Forrest's regular policy. It was ordered before the capture of Fort Pillow and boasted of afterwards. Nor is General Forrest the only leader who adopts it. At Port Hudson, at Milliken's Bend, at Fort Wagner, at Paducah, everywhere beyond General Lee's own command, negro troops have been murdered after surrender. But Fort Pillow is the climax. Are not these brutal soldiers, who, though they disgrace General Lee and men of his stamp, really furnish half the muscle and raw material of the Southern armies, as much *hostes humani generis* as the Taepings? In the history of war we remember no worse enormity than that of Fort Pillow.—*Spectator*.

#### THE PRINCE OF WALES AT ST JAMES'S HALL.

On Wednesday night the seventy-fifth anniversary dinner of the Royal Literary Fund was celebrated at St. James's Hall, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales presiding. There were above 400 guests on the occasion. On the right of his Royal Highness were the Duke of Cambridge, Earl Russell, the Belgian Minister, the Marquis of Salisbury, Viscount Hardinge, Bishop of St. David's, Lord Dunsany, Lord Egerton of Tatton, Lord Houghton, Lord C. Hamilton, Sir J. Pakington, Admiral Sir A. Milne. On the left were Earl Stanhope, President of the Literary Fund, the Lord Primate of Ireland, Duke of St. Albans, Marquis of Clanricarde, the Lord in Waiting, Earl de Grey, Viscount Sydney, Lord Broughton, Lord Talbot de Malahide, Mr. Cardwell, M.P., Sir C. Phipps, Gen. Knollys, Major Teesdale. There was also a large attendance of persons eminent in literature, science, and politics.

In proposing the toast of "The Queen," the PRINCE said that though her Majesty to a certain extent had been obliged to retire from public life, still the interest she took in every institution of the country, and charitable institutions in particular, remains undiminished. The Marquis of SALISBURY proposed "The Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family," and Mr. CARDWELL, "The Church," to which the Primate of Ireland responded. The PRINCE then neatly introduced the toast of "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," the Duke of Cambridge responding. In proposing the next toast, his Royal Highness the CHAIRMAN said:—

Your Royal Highness, my lords, and gentlemen, I have now the honour to propose the most important toast of the evening—it is "Prosperity to the Royal Literary Fund." (Cheers.) Although the most important, it is nevertheless the toast upon which, perhaps, I can say least. Certainly I can give you no new information, as everyone here knows better than I do the character of this institution. Still, it is right that I should venture to offer a few remarks on the working of this society. You are all aware, gentlemen, of the immense advantages which have been derived from it in support of literature and science. One of its principal features is that it is not limited to our own countrymen, but is often extended to literary men of all nations—(Hear, hear)—so that we may feel proud to think that by our timely assistance we can not only advance the literature of our country, but that of other nations. In this way many eminent men who would otherwise be incapacitated from making their talents known to the world are enabled to do so. (Hear, hear.) The second important feature is the secrecy with which this timely aid is given, a secrecy so sacredly observed that in the number of cases, which amount to 1,645, since the foundation of this corporation in the year 1790, there is not a single instance of any indiscretion having been committed; and if cases have been brought to light, it has only been through the acknowledgment of the literary men thus assisted, and who have been anxious to express their gratitude. (Cheers.) I ought here to mention the name of a distinguished man of letters whose loss must be deeply deplored in all literary circles. I allude to Mr. Thackeray. (Continued cheering.) I allude to him not so much on account of his works, for they are standard works, but because he was an active member of your committee and always ready to open his purse for the relief of literary men struggling with difficulties. (Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, some of those here present do not perhaps know that in France, since 1857, an institution similar to ours, and founded by M. Thenard, has been in existence for the benefit of scientific men only, and that a few days ago M. Champfleury, a distinguished writer, proposed to found a literary society, adopting some of our principles. It is to be hoped that these two societies may be one day amalgamated, and may form sister literary funds—(cheers)—and if administered on our model, I think we may augur for the institution a large measure of success. We shall at all times be most happy to enter into communication with it, and show it the result of our long experience, and of the unwearied zeal and exertion of the officers of this corporation. (Hear, hear.) I will not detain you much longer, gentlemen, but I cannot sit down without bringing back to your recollection the deep interest which my dear and



lamented father—(cheers)—took in everything connected with literature and science, and particularly in the labours of this society. (Hear, hear.) Nobody has forgotten that the second time he spoke in public in this country was as chairman of the Literary Fund dinner, and we all, I am convinced, deeply regret that the speeches made on that occasion were not reported at full length, as every word falling from those lips could not fail to command universal admiration. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, let us drink "Prosperity to the Royal Literary Fund."

The toast was drunk with great applause, and responded to by Earl STANHOPE. Earl RUSSELL, who was received with loud cheers, intermingled with some hissing, proposed the toast of "English Literature," which was responded to by Mr. A. TROLLOPE. Lord HOUGHTON proposed the toast of "Foreign Literature," which was acknowledged by M. VAN DE WYER, the Belgian Ambassador. Earl STANHOPE then gave the health of his Royal Highness the Chairman, which was duly acknowledged; and the toast of the ladies, who filled the spacious galleries, and evidently took the deepest interest in the proceedings, brought the banquet to a close.

#### ROYAL JENNERIAN SOCIETY.

The annual general meeting of this useful association was held on Friday week at the Freemasons' Tavern, Mr. A. Templeton in the chair.

The SECRETARY having read the minutes of the last general meeting and the various council meetings, the same were confirmed.

The cash account stated the receipts of the year had been 190*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.*, which, with the exception of 13*s.* 9*d.*, had been expended. The debts due by the institution amounted to 247*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*

Dr. EPPS read the annual report, which stated that the prevalence of small-pox during the preceding year had caused a demand for vaccination, and increased activity had been shown by the various parishes and unions in drawing attention to the Vaccine Act. The board of managers still held that Government interference in respect to vaccination was injurious. Had not Government interfered with the glorious discovery of vaccination, its progress would have been much more rapid, and he traced the present supineness on the part of the public with regard to vaccination, to the establishment at the beginning of the present century of the National Vaccine establishment, which became a job. The National Vaccine Institution, in the first instance, lessened the liberality of the charitable who felt an interest in vaccination, because the general idea was that Government had taken the whole subject under its own care. In consequence of the public belief being lessened in the efficacy of vaccination, some medical men determined to resist the progress of unbelief by obtaining the passing of an act which was a disgrace to all parties connected with it for the gross ignorance manifested on the question of vaccination. A protest was made at the time against the absurdity of requiring the certificate to be given the eighth day after the operation, on the ground that it was impossible to form a correct opinion of the success of the vaccination, and he read a long correspondence between the Home Secretary and himself with reference to the issue of certificates of successful vaccination before any positive judgment could be formed upon its success. It appeared that there had been a child vaccinated which was brought to Dr. Epps with a certificate, signed on the eighth day, that she was safe from small-pox, when the appearance did not indicate safety, and several letters passed between the Government and Dr. Epps, which was concluded by the former declining to give their reasons for asserting that the certificate which had been issued was properly issued. The institution had during the past year vaccinated 2,000 children. The report regretted, however, that the funds yearly collected were not sufficient to carry on the institution, and if additional aid were not given it must sink. If a society which for fifty years had spread the benefits of vaccination were to be allowed to sink for want of aid, there would be no other institution to extend its warnings against the malpractices that were sure to arise in connection with vaccination; and the report concluded with an earnest appeal for public support in favour of an institution which had effected so much public benefit.

On the motion of Mr. DICK, seconded by Dr. EPPS, the report was unanimously adopted, and ordered to be printed and circulated.

The retiring officers of the council were re-elected, and a vote of thanks was given to the board of managers and the medical council for their services during the past year.—A cordial vote of thanks was given to Dr. Epps, the medical director, and also to Mr. S. R. Bardoulean, the hon. secretary, for their services.—A vote was also passed authorising Dr. Epps, as medical director, to take the necessary steps to bring the correspondence referred to in the report between him and the Lords of the Privy Council before Parliament.—A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

**HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS**—THE KNIFE SUPERSEDED.—All afflicted with ulcers, diseases of the bone, inflammation of the joints, should read this testimonial to the curative powers of these healing and purifying remedies. Mr. John Allen, 17, Denmark-street, Leicester, suffered severely from a bad foot for three years, during which long period he was under surgical treatment without any perceptible benefit. He resolutely objected to amputation, which seemed the only course open till he providentially tried Holloway's remedies; these gave him great relief and at last completely cured him. Spots, blemishes, sores and skin diseases arising from impoverished blood or a reckless course of life, may be removed by the judicious use of Holloway's Ointment and Pills.

#### Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Court remains at Balmoral. The Queen takes daily drives in the neighbourhood.

The Princess Alice and her husband, the Prince Louis of Hesse, are shortly expected to visit the Queen at Windsor, but will spend a few days previously with the Prince and Princess of Wales.

On Wednesday last the Prince of Wales presided at the anniversary dinner of the Literary Fund, and on Thursday with the Princess went to the Bazaar in aid of the French Protestant Free School at St. James's Hall. In the evening they had a dinner party at Marlborough House, at which, among others, were present the Russian Ambassador and the Earl of Derby, with their ladies.

On Wednesday a deputation of ladies from Ireland attended at Marlborough House to present some lace to the Princess of Wales. A deputation of ladies from Worcester to present three vases of Limoges enamel, manufactured at the Royal Porcelain Works, Worcester, and presented by the ladies of Worcestershire. A deputation of gentlemen from the city of Worcester to present a breakfast service.

A hint is given by the *Daily News* that the income of the Prince of Wales proves scarcely sufficient now that he and the Princess have to act so much as the deputies of the Queen in social matters.

The Prince and Princess of Wales are expected to visit Ascot Races on Tuesday, the 7th, and Thursday, the 9th of June.

At a recent meeting of Convocation of the University of London, John Storrar, M.D., was elected chairman, in the room of C. J. Foster, LL.D.

When Mr. Lindsay brings forward his motion for recognising the Confederate States, Mr. Baxter will move the "previous question."

A Treasury warrant fixes the postage on each letter not exceeding half-an-ounce at 1*s.* from the United Kingdom to Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand. The alteration to take place July 1st.

The Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury passed the Whitsun holidays with Lord Palmerston at Brockett Hall.

The Duke of Newcastle's health is said to be decidedly improving. His grace is taking daily airings in his carriage, and appears to be daily gaining strength. By command of the Queen a State concert was given on Monday evening at Buckingham Palace, to which a party of nearly 800 was invited. The Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, the Princess Mary, and the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, were present. The Princess of Wales wore a black tulle dress, with flounces of tulle and jet ornaments, and a tunic trimmed with lace and jet. Head-dress, a tiara of jet, with jet ornaments. Her Royal Highness also wore the Victoria and Albert badge, and the Portuguese Order of Isabella.

Lord Brougham has arrived in town from Cannes.

#### Miscellaneous News.

THE NEWSPAPER PRESS FUND has its inaugural festival at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Saturday evening. Lord Houghton presided. The proceedings were of the most interesting character. The subscriptions announced amounted to nearly 1,500*l.*

THE ANDREW REED MEMORIAL.—The former pupils of the London Orphan Asylum gave a commission to Mr. Felix Miller, R.A., one of their number, to execute a memorial tablet to the founder, and this exquisite work of art was uncovered on Friday last in the presence of Mr. Reed's family and the committee.

DWELLINGS FOR THE LABOURING CLASSES.—A special conference will be held at the house of the Society of Arts, John-street, Adelphi, on Thursday and Friday next, to which the Council invite all the members of the Society of Arts, and others known to take a special interest in the subject. The question of working men's dwellings will be discussed in its various aspects.

THE THREE CONFEDERATE PIRATES were brought up on Monday in the Court of Queen's Bench, from Liverpool, under writ of *habeas corpus*, with a view of being discharged, or otherwise disposed of. Counsel were not, however, ready to go on with the case, and the prisoners were sent to Whitecross-street Prison until yesterday, when their case was again argued.

THE WEATHER LAST WEEK.—The past week has been one of the most extraordinary for temperature known in the month of May. The sky was almost cloudless, the wind from N.E. The barometer steady at 30.20 (at sea level). The maximum temperature from 15th to 21st; 76.0, 82.0, 80.0, 84.0, 84.0 85.0, 78.0. On Sunday it became much cooler, and has since continued so.

SHOCKING ACCIDENT.—The country residence of the Earl of Essex, at Cashiobury, was on Saturday the scene of a fearful accident. The sister of the noble lord, the Comtesse de Septinel, was staying at Cashiobury, and whilst at her toilet in the evening her light dress took fire from a candle, and instantly the unfortunate lady was enveloped in flames. She tried to extinguish the fire by rolling on the bed, but finding this to be ineffectual, rushed down the stairs with a view to obtain help. A party of visitors were staying in the house, and some these, while taking tea, having perceived an unusual light, went into the clois-

ters to ascertain the cause, and to their intense horror they saw the unfortunate lady approaching them enveloped in a pillar of fire. Help was instantly rendered and the fire extinguished. She died on Sunday.

HELP TO THE COLOURED FUGITIVES IN AMERICA.—At a meeting of the Ladies' Negro's Friend Society at Birmingham, last week, the following resolution was moved by Mr. W. Morgan, seconded by Mr. Partridge, supported by the Rev. J. J. Brown, and cordially adopted:—

That this meeting cordially approves of the lady's suggestion, announced by the chairman, for the freighting of a ship load of agricultural implements and other tools of necessary use in the service of civilised man, to be collected and forwarded to the freedmen of the United States, by a committee to be formed, and this meeting respectfully requests Mr. Edward Gem to act as chairman and treasurer of such committee, and that the Mayor be requested to allow a public appeal for contributions to be published under his patronage, and that a committee be formed to carry out the object.

THE THUNDERSTORM of Friday, which was felt in London, appears to have been of unusual severity, especially in the north of England. In Newcastle and neighbourhood its effects were of the most disastrous and, unhappily, fatal character. Several houses were struck and seriously damaged by the lightning; while at Sheriff Hill, near Gateshead, a man named Forster, who was working in the fields, was knocked down by the electric fluid, and expired upon the spot. At Prospect Hill, near Percy Main, on the Blyth and Tyne Railway, a drainer named Gibson was equally suddenly deprived of life, several other workmen who were near him narrowly escaping. In Shields, Sunderland, Stockton, and other places, considerable damage was also caused by the storm. At Birkenhead, another fatality occurred during the storm, a woman being struck by the lightning and killed on the highway.

MR. ROEBUCK AND THE DUKE OF ARGYLE AT SHEFFIELD.—At a public meeting held in the hall of the Mechanics' Institute, at Sheffield, on Wednesday, his Grace the Duke of Argyle and Mr. Roebuck addressed a numerous audience on the occasion of the assembling of delegates of the Yorkshire Mechanics' Institutes. The Duke of Argyle, in a long and eloquent speech, which was frequently applauded during its delivery, and which at its conclusion elicited the most enthusiastic and long-continued signs of approbation, treated mainly of the probable introduction of a larger measure of Government agency towards the education of the working class. Mr. Roebuck followed in the same line of argument, declaring his opinion that State aid ought to be, and before long would be, extensively introduced for the purpose of facilitating the education of the working poor. He also referred to the introduction of the Factory Act, which was regarded at that time as an interference of the State between the employer and the employed; but he said that observation and experience taught him his error; that as soon as he had seen reason to change his mind upon that important question, he got up and delivered his recantation in the House of Commons; and that when he had done so, the late Sir James Graham laid his hand upon his (Mr. Roebuck's) shoulder and said—"I am glad that you have read your recantation, and I will read mine to-morrow." (Hear, hear.) Mr. Roebuck complained of the apathy of the master class of Sheffield and its neighbourhood with respect to the many admirable organisations for introducing intellectual pleasures to their workpeople.

ACCESSION OF QUEEN VICTORIA.—On Monday we were listening all day for the tolling of the bells, watching whether the guests were going to the Waterloo dinner at Apsley House. On Tuesday, at half-past two a.m., the scene closed, and in a very short time the Archbishop of Canterbury and Lord Conyngham, the Chamberlain, set out to announce the event to their young sovereign. They reached Kensington Palace at about five; they knocked, they rang, they thumped for a considerable time before they could rouse the porter at the gates; they were again kept waiting in the courtyard, then turned into one of the lower rooms, where they seemed forgotten by everybody. They rang the bell, desired that the attendant of the Princess Victoria might be sent to inform H.R.H. that they requested an audience on business of importance; after another delay, and another ringing to inquire the cause, the attendant was summoned, who stated that the Princess was in such a sweet sleep she could not venture to disturb her. Then they said, "We are come to the Queen on business of state, and even her sleep must give way to that." It did; and, to prove that she did not keep them waiting, in a few minutes she came into the room in a loose white nightgown and shawl, her nightcap thrown off, and her hair falling upon her shoulders, her feet in slippers, tears in her eyes, but perfectly collected and dignified. The first act of the reign was of course summoning the council, and most of the summonses were not received till after the early hour fixed for its meeting. The Queen was, upon the opening of the doors, found sitting at the head of the table. She received first the homage of the Duke of Cumberland, who, I suppose, was not King of Hanover when he knelt to her; the Duke of Sussex rose to perform the same ceremony, but the Queen, with admirable grace, stood up, and prevented him from kneeling, kissed him on the forehead. The crowd was so great, the arrangements so ill-made, that my brothers told me the scene of swearing allegiance to their young sovereign, was more like that of the bidding at an auction than anything else.—*Diaries of a Lady of Quality.*



## Literature.

## "MAN AND NATURE."\*

It was a prominent aim of a recent and very widely circulated work, to prove how man is subject to the forces of elemental nature. It was shown how the most manageable climates and geographical features had been the conditions of the most influential civilisations the world has seen; and how, on the other hand, in tropical regions, with their gigantic rivers, their boundless forests, their insuperable mountains, man had been dwarfed and overmastered, and had failed to attain to that vigorous life and activity which under different circumstances had been developed. The effect upon the mind of the reader of such a line of argument was something like that ascribed to a tyrannous ungovernable natural environment. One felt almost as if the conquest over nature guaranteed to man by the Almighty was a delusion; and that, instead of being master, the puny creature was the slave after all. Without calling in question the measure of truth conveyed in the late Mr. Buckle's argument,—by his disproportionate insistence upon it alone converted to falsehood—we hail with much satisfaction a work the scope of which is the direct converse and antithesis of its predecessor, namely, to point out the extent to which man is able to modify these very conditions of nature which might otherwise dominate over him and repress or counteract his activities. "The object of the present volume" (we quote from the preface) "is,—to indicate the character and, approximately, the extent of the changes produced by human action in the physical condition of the globe we inhabit; to point out the dangers of imprudence and the necessity of caution in all operations which, on a large scale, interfere with the spontaneous arrangements of the organic or the inorganic world; to suggest the possibility and the importance of the restoration of disturbed harmonies, and the material improvement of waste and exhausted regions; and, incidentally, to illustrate the doctrine, that man is in both kind and degree, a power of higher order than any of the other forms of animated life." There can be no question that the subject Mr. Marsh has chosen to treat is of the very highest importance. The northern coasts of Africa, especially the Cyrenaica which once supplied the teeming population of Italy with corn, and that very Palestine which "flowed with milk and honey," and whose frontiers yielded those magnificent clusters which might seem sufficient compensation for all those tedious wanderings in the wilderness, are now for the most part arid wastes; having become so by the neglect of natural laws. And in vast virgin tracts of America and Australia, man is even now at work with a recklessness which subsequent generations may in vain deplore, or with long and painstaking labour seek to counteract.

One of the most obvious ways in which man may permanently affect the physical conditions of a country is by denuding it of its trees. Among some nations—it appears to be so in Spain—there is even a prejudice against woods. "A man is famous," in another way than the Psalmist meant, as he "lifts up the axe against the thick trees." Physiologists, moreover, often tell us that much wood is objectionable on sanitary grounds. And, to say nothing of the prodigality which at times dooms a whole forest, like the goose that laid the golden eggs, there is the further consideration that for every acre of wood cleared, is gained so much area for profitable agriculture. All these causes tend to the rapid destruction of forest in thickly-peopled regions; while in those tenanted by the savage, or merely "squatted" on by thinly-scattered settlers, the destruction of miles upon miles of nature's chosen vesture is a mere common incident. Yet there are facts before us—as Mr. Marsh here points out—which might well make us pause, if possible, in this indiscriminate devastation; and which deserve the most careful study on the part of those who are in any way able to control the development of national resources. The district of Provence (the ancient Roman *Provincia*) situated between the Rhine and the Alps, and bounded by the Isère on the north, and the Mediterranean on the south, furnishes an advantageous field for the observation of many of the phenomena with which the present work deals, and in particular of the natural economy of the Forest. It is well diversified with mountain, valley, stream, and plain; and during the last two centuries has been to a great extent stripped of the wood with which its hill-slopes were naturally clothed.

\* *Man and Nature: or, Physical Geography as Modified by Human Action.* By G. F. MARSH. London: Sampson Low and Co.

During that period, a great extent of plough land and pasturage has, of course, been thereby added to the soil before reduced to cultivation. Yet what has been the result, as far as population and as wealth are concerned? So far from there being increase, there has been in many communes an alarming decrease; while others have been literally deserted by their inhabitants, on account of the devastating force of the torrents, which now, instead of filtering slowly through the spongy vegetable soil of the mountain forest-land, or being to a great extent actually intercepted by the leaves and roots of the trees themselves, sweep uncontrolled in flooding sheets down the slopes, carrying before them all the creations of human industry, and leaving behind them, instead of the thin yet productive layer of mould, a waste expanse of boulders, gravel, sand, and bare naked rock. Another destructive consequence of unwise denudation the country appears to have been the increased violence of hail-storms. Tracts of woodland, acting as a multitudinous system of conductors, may, of course, often serve to draw off a surplussage of electricity in the atmospheric strata above them; and as hail is, in all probability, an electric phenomenon, the action of its generative conditions may in this way be suspended or prevented. We can therefore readily receive such statements, as that "the May hail which now desolates the fertile plains of Lombardy" has become much more frequent since the chains of the Alps and the Apennines have been "stripped of their magnificent crowns of woods" (p. 140); and that "since the forests which covered the mountains between the Riviera and the county of Mont-ferrat had disappeared, hail had become more destructive in the district of Acqui" (p. 141); with others to the same effect. And one can hardly forbear a scornful laugh at the Epimethean wisdom which by the erection of artificial hail-conductors has proposed to repair the injury wrought by the destruction of the vast and magnificent *paragrandini* of nature herself. A more obvious end answered by trees is that of affording shelter from cutting winds. Hence the clearing of forests has in various instances been known so injuriously to affect climates, as to occasion the blight and destruction of fruits and grains, besides exposing the soil to barren drifting sands. Since the cutting down of the woods of the Apennines, we learn, "cold winds destroy or stunt the vegetation" of the tracts thus laid bare; and in consequence of "the usurpation of winter on the domain of spring," the district of Mugello in particular has "lost all its mulberries except the few which find in the lee of buildings a protection like that once furnished by the forest" (p. 152).

Our space will not admit of our entering upon numerous other curious and interesting questions discussed by the author. We rejoice to see that, amongst other valuable suggestions, he raises his voice as an economist in denunciation of that wasteful and wanton cruelty which strips our fields and coppices of their feathered tenants. As a countryman of Mr. Marsh's recently made this the subject of one of his most pleasing little poems—"The Birds of Killingworth"—we infer that our American cousins are equally exposed with ourselves to the consequences of this wholesale distinction. It would be useless to appeal to the petty Nimrods of such small game, on the ground of the right to life possessed by the meanest creature which is duly filling its place in Nature's wide economy, on the exhilaration which their blithe movements and blither songs wake in every sensible heart; but even they may perhaps appreciate the fact that a single pair of sparrows carry to their nest some four thousand caterpillars per week during the nursing period! The "featherless biped" may little heed the fact that he is "exchanging the vocal orchestra which greets the rising sun for the 'drowsy beetle's evening drone,'" but he may discern that it is unprofitable to wage a warfare against "his natural allies." It is possible that the "pert, voracious" sparrow—whose poor little head is so often sacrificed for the sum of a minute fraction of a penny—could not be extirpated without imperilling our orchard and garden crops altogether. We must gratify ourselves by quoting an ably-written paragraph in which the author enumerates some of the ways in which man—not God—"curses" the earth given him to subdue and rule:—

"The ravages committed by man subvert the relations and destroy the balance which Nature had established between her organised and her inorganic creations; and she avenges herself upon the intruder by letting loose upon her defaced provinces destructive energies hitherto left in check by organic forces destined to be his best auxiliaries, but which he has unwisely driven from the field of action. When the forest is gone, the great reservoir of moisture stored up in its vegetable mould is evaporated, and returns only in deluges of rain to wash away the parched dust into which that mould has been converted. The well-wooded and humid hills are turned to ridges of dry rock, which encumbers the low grounds and chokes the water-courses with its debris, and—ex-

cept in countries favoured with an equable distribution of rain through the seasons, and a moderate and regular inclination of surface,—the whole earth, unless rescued by human art from the physical degradation to which it tends, becomes an assemblage of bald mountains, of barren, turfless hills, and of swampy, malarious plains. There are parts of Asia Minor, of Northern Africa, of Greece, and even of Alpine Europe, where the operation of causes set in action by man has brought the face of the earth to a desolation almost as complete as that of the moon; and though within that brief space of time which we call 'the historical period,' they are known to have been covered with luxuriant woods, verdant pastures, and fertile meadows, they are now too far deteriorated to be reclaimable by man; nor can they become again fitted for human use except through great geological changes, or other mysterious influences or agencies of which we have no present knowledge; and over which we have no prospective control. The earth is fast becoming an unfit home for its noblest inhabitants, and another era of equal human crime and human improvidence, and of like duration with that through which traces of that crime and that improvidence extend, would reduce it to such a condition of impoverished productiveness, of shattered surface, of climatic excess, as to threaten the depuration, barbarism, and perhaps even extinction of the species."—Pp. 44, 45.

Mr. Marsh has arranged his subject under the following general heads:—"The Transfer, Modification and Extirpation of Vegetable and of Animal Species"; "The Woods"; "The Waters"; "The Sands." From causes referred to above, and others, there is some overlapping between these subjects. Among the most important questions connected with the "Waters," are the origin and the means, if any exist, of mitigating those terrible inundations, which, as in that of the Loire in 1857, menace the well-being and even the existence of an entire population. As illustrating the extent to which the general sense of the country of France has been penetrated with the connection between the reckless denudation of her hillsides, and such sweeping disasters, may be mentioned the fact, that in the year 1860 a sum of 10,000,000 francs, to be spread over ten years, was voted for the restoration of the destroyed forests. Very interesting accounts are given of the embankments of Holland, and what seem in some cases to be designed as nature's embankments, the sand-dams of south-west France and other countries. In a brief concluding chapter, some opinions are expressed as to possible geographical changes, to be wrought by man in the future. There is the yet unfinished Suez Canal, with the commingling, if it ever be finished, of the waters and marine life of seas so different as the Mediterranean and the Red; the still grander project of a Darien Canal; possible diversions of great bodies of water, in order to effect general amelioration of a region now barren and dry, as, of the Volga into the hollow of the Caspian; and other similar enterprises, practicable or impracticable, the brief and sensible discussion of which adds to the interest of the book. We cordially recommend this work to the attention of our readers.

## "WALK FROM LONDON TO JOHN O'GROAT'S."\*

This "walk was projected in 1846 in order to 'become more thoroughly acquainted with the country and people than I could by any other mode of travelling'; it was undertaken in 1863 for the additional purpose of gaining information upon improved English systems of farming, in which Mr. Burritt had begun meanwhile to take great interest, both as a practical agriculturalist in Connecticut, and as corresponding secretary of a New England Agricultural Club. These notes of his journeyings were published for this society in particular, and for the American public in general; but they are, as it were, forwarded unsealed through the English post, and written throughout with the full consciousness that they will command the attention, if not the approbation, of a large circle of English readers.

The agricultural interest of the book gathers round the four portraits, which in addition to a frontispiece likeness of the author, adorn its pages. There is a very well written account of Mr. Mechi's farm at Tiptree, from which spot the walk literally began. Those who have had a confused association of ideas, mingling Mechi, Magic Strops, main drains, and modern manures, will learn how thoroughly honest and completely successful have been the farming operations of the London Alderman. "Here, then, are four 'specific departments of improvement in agricultural industry which the Alderman has introduced.' Underdraining the heavy clay-lands, agricultural machinery, irrigation with liquid manure, and deep tillage. 'Every one of them has been ridiculed as an impracticable and useless innovation in its turn. Three of them have been adopted, and the fourth, or 'irrigation by steam-power,' bids fair to find as much favour and as many adherents in the

\* *Walk from London to John O'Groat's.* By ELIHU BURRITT. London: Sampson Low, Son, and Marston, 14, Ludgate-hill.



"end, as the others have done." The next portrait is one of Jonas Webb, the great breeder of Southdowns, a truly distinguished man, both in personal character and the actual results which he accomplished. "How 'am I to know the gentleman?" asked "the courier appointed to meet him at Folkestone, on the occasion of a visit which he paid to France, 'I never saw him in my life.'" "N'importe," was the reply:—"Put the letter into 'the hand of the noblest-looking man on board, 'and you will sure to be right.' He followed 'the direction, and recognised Mr. Webb at 'once." Were it not for the respect paid by his family to his reticent humility in all things which concerned himself, the public might have had reason to complain that no biography worthy of the man has extended the knowledge of such rare excellence beyond the comparatively limited class to which his name is familiar. Mr. Burritt seems to have been greatly astonished at the extent of some of our large farms, that, for instance of Mr. Jonas, in the neighbourhood of Royston, comprising upwards of 3,000 acres. He shows how such holdings are new even amongst us, and "in the very heart of England, containing a space less than the State of Virginia, a tract of such extent and value in the hand of a single farmer, is a fact which a New Englander must regard at first with no little surprise." He accounts for the possibility of this by the two facts, that exact and rigid agricultural science has simplified the working even of such large farms as these, and that labour which could not be hired in America at any price can be obtained here cheaply. The last portrait is of Anthony Cruikshank, a draper in Aberdeenshire, who has devoted himself so successfully to cattle-breeding that he possesses the largest herd of shorthorns in the world, and holds annual sales and lettings which are attended by large numbers from all parts of the kingdom. Those interested in these subjects may here read the opinions of an observant and candid stranger upon all the branches of farming so worthily represented by these four men.

This book has, however, an interest quite apart from all agricultural questions. We congratulate ourselves on our freedom from that morbid sensitiveness to the opinions of others which exists amongst Mr. Burritt's fellow-countrymen. Our customs and institutions have borne the test of so many generations that we only pity those envious detractors who will not be as satisfied with them as we are. Perhaps if they were still comparatively untried, our knowledge of this would make us just as ready in their defence from all attacks, as the most voluble American patriot. And yet with all this national complacency already existing, we do not object to having it still further ministered to by such writers as Elihu Burritt. He has come to us not as a strict critic to point out our faults, but as a most courteous guest, who, having received a hearty welcome in the old country, will not abuse her hospitality by any remarks depreciatory either of his hosts or their house. Surely such a book as this, in the loving and kindly feeling which it displays, in its hearty good nature and resolute sympathy with all that is good in our English country life, must help to draw us nearer to the great people for whom it was written. We only wish that we had more books on "American Travel" written by Englishmen in the same spirit. This tone, by the way, is sometimes quite as surprising and amusing as it is gratifying.

How many of us can read the following without a blush of guilty memory, either of actual misdeeds or complicity in them on half-holidays long gone by? At the conclusion of a charming rhapsody on our English song-birds we read, "I believe everything sings that has wings in 'England. And well it might; for here it is 'safe from shot, stones, snares, and other destructive. After travelling and sojourning 'nearly ten years in the country, I have never 'seen a boy throw a stone at a sparrow, or climb 'a tree for a bird's nest' (!) We have heard a great deal of the miserable condition of our peasantry as contrasted with that even of countries far behind us in general civilisation. But Mr. Burritt compares our farm labourers with those of the most progressive people on the earth, and demonstrates by elaborate calculations that the English labourer's position would compare even favourably with that of a man in the same station of life in America, if only he would give up beer and could get a better house to live in. So, too, he mourns like an intelligent Protectionist of the old school (if such a being can exist) over the inevitable disappearance of hedgerows and their trees, the traditional British farmer, and the sounds and sights of the old farmyard. This conservative spirit has betrayed him into the only injustice of which we can find any trace in this book. Surely the Sutherland eviction does not require to be argued over again. Even after declaiming against its injus-

tice, we read "not for their good was it meant 'in the motive of its transactions; but for their 'good it worked most blessedly." A policy so triumphantly vindicated by its results hardly deserves such condemnation. The dogmatic judgment of motive in this case is so unlike Mr. Burritt's usual expansive charity, that we can only attribute it to his allowing himself to be carried away by the touching stories which he heard upon the spot, of the sorrows and suffering with which the old houses, wretched as they were, were abandoned.

Although Mr. Burritt has been so frank in telling us his motives for writing this work, there is, we suspect one which he has not mentioned and of which he himself is hardly conscious. This volume is very pleasant reading partly because we feel that it was very pleasant writing. There are passages whole pages long, in which the author has evidently given himself up to the luxury of unrestrained expression of his fancies. He knows well enough that his space is very limited, that he has expressly promised to tell us about the British Association at Newcastle and the Social Science meeting at Edinburgh, but he flows on as though he could not deny himself the pleasure of writing out his conceptions. This was surely an impelling power. His mouth craved it of him. We cannot reproduce any of these beautiful musings without curtailing them, and that would be to spoil them. We can only refer the reader to the book itself, especially the chapters on birds and trees—and "co-operative activities."

Good as the book is in itself, it has special excellences as the production of Elihu Burritt. There are only about two references, and those introduced perfectly naturally, which can remind us that the author is the New England philological prodigy. Still more modestly does he conceal his position as one of the most energetic of modern philanthropists. He is content all along to be what he now so honourably is—a Connecticut farmer. Shall we be thought captious if we say, that with all the beauty of this self-repression, we somewhat miss the old denunciation of the horrors and sin of war as a decider of any controversies, in which Mr. Burritt was wont to be so eloquent, but of which there is so little in his writing even when he deplores the civil contest now dividing that country which he holds so dear?

#### SHAKESPEARE AND THE BIBLE.\*

Dr. Wordsworth's sermon a fortnight ago at Stratford-on-Avon must be fresh in every one's memory, as exhibiting a true conception of the poet's use and function in the providence of God, thorough familiarity with Shakespeare's works, and an adequate appreciation of his genius. His character as a Christian minister is a sufficient guarantee for his possessing the other qualities needed for the execution of the task he has set himself in this beautiful and charming little book, the very conception of which is in itself a most happy inspiration.

None can doubt Dr. Wordsworth's reverence for the Bible; and so none can believe that it is in a light spirit, or on insufficient grounds, that he has undertaken to show that Shakespeare was "in a more than ordinary degree a diligent and 'devout reader of the Word of God.'" How it ever came to be thought that the Bible was the subject of scornful allusion in his dramas, we never could understand, though quite prepared for any feat of startling and preposterous interpretation which ignorance or superstition could suggest at the hands of Mr. Bowdler. But that Shakespeare was as familiar with the Bible as Dr. Wordsworth satisfactorily makes out, or that his pages were literally covered with Biblical ideas and expressions, was equally far from one's thoughts. Of course one recognises the "parallel 'passages' when cited; but their number must till now have been unsuspected by the most open-eyed of readers. The "wood 'notes wild' conception of Shakespeare, as one who uttered profound things without any adequate sense of the value of his own words, or without seriousness of purpose, in a sort of divine trance, as maniacs are supposed to do by the Turks, criticism has long since discredited. But that his whole life attested and bore out the gravity of spirit in which his will was conceived—and that so far from being "one of the profane"—"master of 'the revels to mankind," as even Emerson calls him—he was given to habitual meditation on Biblical facts and doctrines, as we are bound to infer from finding that Biblical ideas enter largely into the substance of his poetry, and Biblical expressions lend a distinctive colour to his style—these are facts which Dr. Wordsworth, so far as we know, is the first publicly, or at least so largely

to take note of. A quite new view of Shakespeare is suggested in the following passage:—

"He was indeed honest," says his friend Ben Jonson, "and of an open and free nature." Upon such unquestionable testimony, it is pleasant to be permitted to think of our greatest poet, as one 'who in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, kept it, and brought forth fruit with patience.' That he brought forth fruit—immortal fruit—to the glory of God and the benefit of mankind, no one can deny. Nor is there any conflicting record to prevent us from believing that the tenor of his life, especially in his later years, was in conformity with the confession of his death as exhibited in his will; unless indeed we are to admit two of his sonnets as evidence against himself, which if they prove him at one time to have yielded to the temptations with which he was beset, prove him also to have possessed afterwards the spirit of a true penitent."

Does not this view of Shakespeare's life and character, if it be correct,—the theme is a fruitful one, and we will add but one word upon it—complete the antithesis between Shakespeare's ideal and rule of life, and that which the only one of the moderns ever named in the same breath with him, lived up to and taught? Goethe measured the value of things and the expediency of all human pursuits by their relations to a conscious self-culture; Shakespeare lived an unconscious life of free enjoyment of external objects, tempered and kept in check by reverence for an outward, absolute, positive law. There is matter for grave meditation in the question, which life is the higher and worthier?

Dr. Wordsworth's book is in two parts. The first treats of noticeable words, and forms of speech, in the English Bible found also in Shakespeare. Here we observe nothing very novel; though young people who are puzzled by the archaisms of our translation, might take an interest in the light thrown upon such passages by the corresponding expressions in the poet. Here is a very well-known children's stumbling-block, and the corrective line from Shakespeare that removes it:—

"In the morning shall my prayer prevent thee."

*Psa. xxxviii. 7, 13.*

"I would have staid till I had made you merry,  
If worthier friends had not prevented me."

*—Merchant of Venice.*

Better still: *road* once in the Bible is equivalent to *raid*—"inroad:—

"Whither have ye made a road to-day?"

*—1 Sam. xxvii. 10.*

"Against the Scot who will make road upon us  
With all advantage."

*—Henry V.*

Again, the important word *atonement* seems to have its sense and etymology fixed by the line from *Othello*:—

"I would do much to atone them."

The second part is distributed under the three heads, of the allusions in Shakespeare to the Historical Facts and Characters of the Bible; of Shakespeare's Religious Principles and Sentiments derived from the Bible; and, of the Poetry of Shakespeare as derived from the Bible. The following extract is taken from the section entitled, "Of the Holy Angels and the Father:—

"A devout invocation for the ministering help of the Holy Angels is not to be confounded with the impiety of addressing them in prayer. The one is encouraged, the other is forbidden in Scripture. Such invocations abound in *Hamlet*, and though the story of that play refers to a period long before the Reformation, and though on that account, Shakespeare would seem to have intended to represent the characters as tinged, to some extent, with the errors of Romanism, yet I am not sure that upon the point before us he has transgressed the limits which a sound theology would impose. For instance, there is nothing to object to in the exclamation of *Hamlet* at the sight of the Ghost,

"Angels and ministers of grace, defend us."

*—Act. I., Scene 4.*

for "Are they not ministering spirits sent forth to minister to them that shall be heirs of salvation."

*Hebrews i. 14.*

And, again, when the Ghost reappears in Act. iii., Sc. 4:—

"Love me, and hover o'er me with your wings,  
You heavenly guards."

Nor is the exclamation of the guilty King, when struggling to repent, and to betake himself to prayer, less appropriate:—

"Help, Angels, make assay!

Bow, stubborn knees! and hearts, with strings of steel,  
Be soft as sinews of the new-born babe.  
All may be well.

*Act. iii., Scene 9.*

There is, however, one punning passage, in which the word *Angels* occurs, which Dr. Wordsworth would find it difficult to praise or defend. It is in the "Merry Wives of Windsor," Act. 1., Sc. iii.

We had many passages for extract, but must be content with saying that this is a book which Biblical and Shakespearian students will alike read with interest and delight. Dr. Wordsworth has succeeded in two apparently impossible tasks—in adding something to the fame of Shakespeare, and increasing the veneration in which the English version of the Scriptures is already held.

\* On Shakespeare's Knowledge and Use of the Bible. By CHRISTOPHER WORDSWORTH, D.C.L., Bishop of St. Andrew's. Smith, Elder, and Co.



## Poetry.

## T I M E.

Demon! why hurry me on so fast?  
Hurry me on towards the dizzy steep—  
Unpitied, hard as the blighting blast—  
And to the valley dark and deep,  
Where grinning monsters wait for me,  
And loathsome things crawl lazily?  
I would be left in sweet repose,  
To take my fill, with a joyful heart,  
From the honey-cup in each flower that blows,  
Without the poison thought "we part!"  
I would shut from my view the dismal track  
Over yawning crags! Now keep thou back!  
Keep back, hold off! and leave me quiet  
To bask beneath the sunny ray,  
And to forget the revel and riot  
Of the evil ones that your nod obey;  
I would have fair thoughts, with no touch of sorrow,  
With all to-day, and no to-morrow!

Wave not your dreadful scythe before me,  
Thrust me not so with your wither'd hands,  
When dreamy memory would restore me  
The loss you have caused of my life's shining sands!  
"Folly and vanity," say you, "was all  
That looked brightest and best," and "not worthy recall!"  
Must I each moment behold the glare  
Of your hideous eyes? in the soothing shade,  
In the golden light, over meadows fair,  
Must that dark glance make all things fade?  
As you urge me faster and faster still,  
With a fainting heart, to do your will!

You have made my long years into days,  
And turned my joys into phantoms airy!  
You have dimmed my eyes with a dazzling haze,  
And the once fleet foot is weak and weary!  
While ever you tell me, with jibe and jeer,  
"The summer is over, the end is near!"

Have you no fibre of kindly feeling—  
Pushing and thrusting me thus along?  
Whirling me so that my brain seems reeling,  
When I would linger to hear the song  
Of the harbinger of a glorious day!  
"Fool," say you, "fool, away, away!"

Have you no eye for earth's beautiful things?  
Take you no joy in the wondrous word,  
That often the terrible tempest brings—  
Truth's voice and God's, that must be heard?  
And marvel you that I would wait  
Until the crooked be made straight?

There is work, there is Heaven's own work to do,  
My heart and my head are ready yet!  
Shall my strength fall when the hands are few?  
Must I hurry past when the tasks are set?  
Only your fearful power restrain,  
While I help to make rough places plain!

"On, on," you say, O pitiless fiend,  
"This work to obey the high behest!  
The hands will be found, and the fields will be gleaned,  
As the Lord of the Harvest judgeth best!  
And the rich ripe fruit of thy labours long  
Will be gathered, and placed in His stores among.

In faith thou must leave this work undone:  
There are who sow, and there are who reap!  
There are who toil in the burning sun;  
There are who rest, and who wake from sleep!  
And ever is ready the arm of might  
To the Master's call—be it day or night."

And now it seems a fair-winged creature  
That lays its spirit-hand on mine!  
I know it, by each word and feature,  
An envoy from the Court Divine!  
How could I think thee so severe?  
Behold, I follow without fear.

Ashurst Wood.

## LITERATURE, SCIENCE AND ART.

It is said that Mr. Gladstone is preparing his Reform speech for publication, and that it will be preceded by a preface explaining his thesis that the *onus probandi* lies on those who limit, not on those who claim admittance to, the franchise.

A new weekly Liberal newspaper is announced to appear the first week in June, entitled the *English Leader*. Mazzini and Professor Newman will contribute to this new periodical.

Mr. Holman Hunt exhibits his pictures in the new gallery in Hanover-street, out of Regent-street. They are entitled, "The Afterglow in Egypt"—a Fellah girl bearing a sheaf of corn upon her head at the going down of the sun; and "The Sea-King's Peaceful Triumph at London-bridge, March 10, 1863," representing the scene on the night of the illuminations.

Mr. Bentley's list of forthcoming works includes a "Narrative of the Invasion of Denmark in 1864," by A. Gallenga, in 2 vols.; "Anecdotal Memoir of Richard Whately, Archbishop of Dublin," by W. J. Fitzpatrick, Esq., in 2 vols.; and "Breakers Ahead," a novel in 2 vols., &c.

Messrs. Macmillan and Co. have in the press, "Vacation Tourists and Notes of Travel in 1862-63," edited by Francis Galton; "The Christ of the Gospels compared with the Christ of Modern Criticism, a Series of Lectures on M. Rénan's *Vie de Jésus*," by John Tulloch, D.D.; "The Gospel, according to St. Matthew, chapters i. to xii., in the received Greek Text, with Notes Critical and Expository," by the late Rev. J. Forshall; a new edition of the "Greek Testament, designed to maintain the General Integrity of Scripture as Received in the Church of England"; and "Brief Notes on the Greek of the New Testament, for English Readers," by the Rev. Francis Trench, D.D.

Messrs. J. W. and J. Parker have nearly ready, to appear in one vol., a new work entitled "Norway, the Road and the Fell."

On Wednesday the auctioneers disposed of the extensive buildings and premises lately occupied as Dr. Williams's Library and the Cripplegate Boys' School, which are to be demolished forthwith, the site being required for the purposes of the Finsbury extension of the Metropolitan Railway. This library was founded by Dr. Daniel Williams in 1716, and opened in 1729.

It is now removed to No. 8, Queen's-square, Bloomsbury, where it will remain until a permanent house has been either purchased or erected.

The Memoirs of "Mr. Joseph Sturge," by the Rev. Henry Richard, has just been published by Mr. Partridge, of Paternoster-row, and is to some extent compiled from material entrusted by the family of the deceased philanthropist to his biographer.

Mr. Dickens's new story is having an enormous sale. On the second day of publication nearly 40,000 copies had been disposed of.—*Morning Star*.

The American correspondent of a contemporary, who writes under the signature "Manhattan," has published a novel called "Marion," which is so grossly immoral that Mr. Mudie has excluded it from his library.—*Star*.

## Clearings.

A child has died at Dartford through eating butter-cups.

According to the *Temps*, M. Meyerbeer has left a fortune estimated at 400,000*l*.

There are 17,405 volunteers enrolled in the Naval Reserve.

A lady wrote with a diamond on a pane of glass,—"God did at first make man upright; but he —," To which a gentleman added—"Most surely had continued so; but she —."

Why does the letter R hold an enviable position? Because it is never found in sin, but always in temperance, industry, virtue, and prosperity. It is the beginning of religion and the end of war.

THE NECESSARIES OF A FEDERAL GENERAL.—In his late defeat, General Banks "lost his baggage and champagne."

It is said that General Garibaldi is an expert sail-maker, and has promised to make a mainsail, with his own hands, for the Duke of Sutherland's beautiful yacht, the *Ondine*.

NEEDLEWORK AT MISSIONARY MEETINGS.—"A Silent Observer" writes to the *Patriot*:—"Surely the devoted ladies who so zealously ply their needles upon fancy articles during the proceedings of missionary anniversaries, will make a present of the work or the profits to the societies to whose business they devote such industrious attention."

A DETERMINED SWORD-FISH.—A marine curiosity of a very unusual character is on exhibition at the Underwriters' Rooms. It is a portion of the hull of the famous "Black Ball" clipper Donald Mackay, through which, and firmly imbedded in the planking, is the spear of a sword-fish. It has gone through the metal, planking, and oak of her side, say ten or twelve inches, and then broken off, leaving it fast there, where it was not discovered till she was docked after her return home.

FLOWERS IN BEDROOMS.—"The loss of a life," says the *Spectator*, "has just occurred in Paris from the practice of keeping flowers in bedchambers. A lady residing in the Rue des Trois-Moulins had received from a friend a quantity of May lilies, which she placed provisionally in a large closet slept in by her daughter, a weakly child, aged six years. At night the mother forgot to remove the flowers, and the door was closed. In the morning the child was dead."

SUICIDE IN EUROPE.—A paper by M. Legoyt, Director of the Office of Statistics of France, states that suicides increase in a more rapid ratio than the population and mortality in general in Bavaria, Denmark, France, Hanover, Mecklenburg, Prussia, Saxony, and Sweden. Contrary to a generally adopted opinion, England stands nearly at the bottom of the scale; and so do Belgium, Austria, and Spain. France holds an intermediate position. Generally for every 100 suicides of men there are from twenty-nine to thirty of women. The general result of all these investigations shows a universal and rapid increase of suicides. The author is of opinion that this is attributable to unlimited competition, to the immoderate thirst after wealth, to the progress of public instruction which excites ambition, to political agitation, and to speculation.

## Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

The stock markets have been variously influenced by rumours as to the results likely to flow from the sittings of the Conference. On Monday there was an improvement, owing, it is said, to "some favourable rumours relative to foreign politics." Consols, of which the closing prices last week were 91½ for money, and 90½ to 3 ex. div. for 8th June, were quoted to day at 91½, 91½ and 90½, 90½.

On Thursday the Bank of England lowered their rate of discount to 8 per cent. The Bank of France also have reduced their rate from 8 to 7 per cent. Very few applications were made in the discount market to-day in anticipation of a further reduction in the official minimum.

The report presented to the annual meeting of the Temperance and General Provident Institution this day stated that 2,851 new policies were issued during 1863, assuring 544,459*l*., and producing new premiums amounting to 18,564*l*. The accumulated capital now exceeds 600,000*l*.

The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the General Life and Fire Assurance Company was held on Thursday last.

The fire premiums received during the year amounted to 49,301*l*. 1*s*. 0*d*., after deducting the amount for guarantees. The claims paid during the same period amounted to 30,134*l*. 9*s*. 1*d*. In the life department the premiums received amounted to 33,313*l*. 7*s*. 2*d*., while the claims amounted to 23,400*l*. 9*s*. 9*d*. The policies issued during the year were 503, producing in annual premiums 4,200*l*. 15*s*. 11*d*. which the directors state to be in excess of those of any former year. Mr. Alderman Lusk was elected a director of the company.

The prospectus of the Maritime Credit Company (Limited) was issued last Thursday. The object is to make advances "by way of mortgage or otherwise, on shipping, wharves, ship-yards, docks, warehouses, and every description of maritime securities"; also "to conduct the usual business of a credit company." The capital is fixed at 1,000,000*l*. (subject to increase), in 20,000 shares of 50*l*. each, of which one-half are to be issued in the first instance. It is not intended to call up more than 12*l*. 10*s*. per share. The direction comprises a number of very respectable mercantile names both of London and Liverpool.

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

## BIRTHS.

MASON.—May 8, at The Grove, Sydenham, the wife of Mr. Henry Mason, of a son.  
BAYLIFFE.—May 15, at the Chapel House, Marlborough, the wife of the Rev. B. S. Bayliffe, B.A., of a son.  
GOODMAN.—May 18, at Cambridge, Mrs. Neville Goodman, of a daughter.  
JARVIS.—May 23, Clementina, wife of the Rev. G. P. Jarvis, Staines, of a daughter.

## MARRIAGES.

HUNTLEY—FLETCHER.—May 10, at Ebenezer Chapel, Widdow, Bath, by the Rev. John Huntley, assisted by the Rev. W. Huntley, of Limpley Stoke, father and brother of the bridegroom, Arthur, youngest son of the above, to Fanny Maria, youngest surviving daughter of Mr. James Fletcher, of Bath.  
WHIDDON—MEARS.—May 11, at the Independent Chapel, Ashburton, Devon, Mr. John Whiddon, late of her Majesty's ship Nile, to Mary, daughter of Mr. H. Mears, Gages, Ashburton.  
BOWER—JONES.—May 11, at Pembroke Chapel, Liverpool, by the Rev. Hubert Bower, of Totnes, the Rev. Edward James Bower, of Buntingford, to Mary Rachel, third daughter of the late John Jones, Esq., of Liverpool. No cards.  
NORTH—SISSONS.—May 12, at Albion Chapel, Hull, by the Rev. R. A. Redford, M.A., LL.B., assisted by the Rev. Thos. Sissons, brother of the bride, William Henry, eldest son of Wm. North, Esq., of Carr House, Sutton, to Annie, youngest daughter of Richard Sissons, Esq., of the Waterworks Office, Hull.  
MORRIS—BROOKS.—May 14, at the Baptist Chapel, Charles-street, Leicester, Mr. J. Sherwood Morris, late of Stanwick, Northamptonshire, to Julia, eldest daughter of Mr. Samuel Brooks, late of Northampton.  
RICHARDSON—WALKES.—May 14, at Park Chapel, Cheetham-hill-road, Manchester, by the Rev. J. Brown, B.A., Thomas, youngest son of the late Mr. Richard Richardson, High Field, Etwell, Derbyshire, to Kezia, eldest daughter of Mr. Charles Walkes, Manchester.  
BRUNTON—HOOD.—May 14, at Calvert-street Chapel, Norwich, by the Rev. R. Chew, James, son of Mr. Matthew Brunton, Great Cressingham, to Eliza Hardy, only daughter of Mr. John H. Hood, Norwich.  
HOPKIN—PARKER.—May 14, at the Independent Chapel, Chepstow, by the Rev. T. Rees, Edwin Hopkin, of Llansey, to Emma Parker, of Llanishan.  
TERRELL—BUCKES.—May 16, at the Independent Chapel, Chepstow, by the Rev. T. Rees, John Amos Terrell, to Frances Buckes, both of Chepstow.  
KENNAN—ROBINSON.—May 16, at the Independent Chapel, Lombard-street, Newark, by the Rev. T. B. Attenborough, Mr. Adam Kennan, to Miss Margaret Robinson.  
MASON—HIBBARD.—May 16, at the Independent Chapel, Lombard-street, Newark, by the Rev. T. B. Attenborough, Mr. Thomas Mason, to Miss Hannah Hibbard.  
THOMSON—CHAWNER.—May 17, at New College Chapel, London, by the father of the bridegroom, the Rev. J. Radford Thomson, M.A., of Tunbridge Wells, eldest son of the Rev. P. Thomson, M.A., of Manchester, to Ann Alice, only child of Mr. John Chawner, of Leicester.  
WALKER—WOOLSTON.—May 17, at the Friends' Meeting-house, Wellington, Thomas Walker, 97, King-street, Huddersfield, to Hannah, second daughter of Daniel Woolston, Doddington, Northamptonshire. No cards.  
EVANS—ROFF.—May 17, at Mount-pleasant Chapel, Swansea, by licence, by the Rev. Chas. Short, M.A., Mr. H. W. Evans, son of Wm. Evans, Esq., merchant, Newport, Mon., to Mayzod Anne, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Robert Roff, Cambridge.  
HARRISON—KLOSZ.—May 18, at the Congregational Church, Craven-hill, by the Rev. T. Goodby, B.A., Mr. Herbert William Harrison, of Union-terrace, Camden-road, to Emma, third daughter of Mr. A. Klosz, of Cambridge-street, Hyde-park.  
LIVOCK—AYTON.—May 18, at the Independent Chapel, Wymondham, Frederick Livock, of Wrentham, to Sarah Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. Robert Ayton, of Sutton, Wymondham.  
DRAKE—MEMBREY.—May 21, at Mount-pleasant Chapel, Swansea, by licence, by the Rev. Chas. Short, M.A., Mr. G. H. Drake, to Mary Robinson Membrey, both of Brixham, Devon.

## DEATHS.

BURDEN.—March 8, at Adelaide, South Australia, Philip Henry, the fifth surviving son of Mr. John Burden, sen., Ledbury, Herefordshire, aged forty.  
MALAN.—May 8, at his residence, near Geneva, Dr. Cesar Malan.  
MCNEIL.—May 13, Jane, the beloved wife of David McNeil, Esq., of Housey-road and the Stock Exchange, aged forty-four.  
SPENCER.—May 14, aged eleven years, Marion, the beloved daughter of Joseph Spencer, Esq., Bute-place, Old Trafford, Manchester.  
MANCHIP.—May 15, at Bridgwater, Martha, the only and beloved daughter of Mr. Thomas Manchip, aged twenty-two years.  
CUNLIFFE.—May 18, at his residence, 21, Highbury-place, Roger Cunliffe, Esq., aged seventy.  
BEVIS.—May 18, at the residence of his father, Ramsgate, Gustavus Gidley Bevis, aged twenty-eight, eldest son of the Rev. H. J. Bevis.  
GOWARD.—May 21, at Market Harborough, Samuel Decimus Goward, youngest son of Mr. T. G. Goward, in the twenty-seventh year of his age.  
ROFF.—May 22, at Swansea, Mayzod, widow of the late Rev. Robert Roff, of Cambridge.  
BIRDSEYE.—May 23, at 19, Barton-road, Brixton, Charlotte, wife of Cornelius Birdseye, Esq., formerly of Adelaide, South Australia.



## Markets.

## CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, May 23.

The show of English wheat this morning was small, and a clearance was effected at about the currency of last Monday. There has been a retail trade for foreign at the quotations of this day so'nigh. Barley realises the prices of last week, but there is not much inquiry. Beans and peas without alteration in value. The arrival of foreign oats for the week is small. Notwithstanding this, our dealers have manifested no anxiety to purchase, and the sales have been chiefly made to country buyers and consumers, who have been able to supply their wants on fully as easy terms as upon this day week.

## BUTCHERS' MEAT, ISLINGTON, Monday, May 23.

The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 8,703 head. In the corresponding week in 1863 we received 5,353; in 1862, 3,929; in 1861, 6,147; in 1860, 6,972; in 1859, 3,762; and in 1858, 2,132 head. The supply of foreign beasts in to-day's market was seasonably good—of foreign sheep and calves only moderate. Sales progressed slowly, and prices had an upward tendency. The arrivals of beasts fresh up this morning from our own grazing districts, were limited; but their general quality was prime. The supply from Scotland was good; but the receipts from Ireland limited. All breeds of beasts commanded a steady sale, at an advance in the quotations compared with Monday last of 2d per 8lbs. The general top figure was 4s 10d; but really prime Scots and crosses realised 5s. per 8lbs. Amongst the supply were about 400 store beasts. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, we received 2,000 Scots, crosses, and shorthorns; from other parts of England, 600 various breeds; from Scotland, 450 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland, 130 oxen and heifers. With sheep we were moderately supplied compared with some previous weeks; there was a falling off in their quality. All breeds sold steadily, at an improvement in value of from 2d. to, in some instances, 4d per 8lbs. Prime Downs and half-breeds sold at 5s 4d per 8lbs. Lambs were in good request at full prices—viz., from 6s 4d to 7s 6d per 8lbs. About 700 came to hand from the Isle of Wight. We had a slow trade for calves, at late rates—viz., from 4s 2d to 5s 2d per 8lbs. The pork trade was heavy, on former terms.

## Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts.	3 4 to 3 8	Prime Southdown	5 2 to 5 4
Second quality	3 10 4 2	Lambs	6 4 7 6
Prime large oxen.	4 4 4 6	Lge. coarse calves	4 2 4 10
Prime Scots, &c.	4 8 4 10	Prime small	5 0 5 2
Coarse inf. sheep.	3 8 4 0	Large hogs	3 6 4 0
Second quality	4 2 4 6	Meatm. porkers	4 2 4 6
Pr. coarse woolled	4 8 5 0		

**NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, May 23.**  
These markets are moderately supplied with most descriptions of town and country-killed meat to-day. Good and prime beef and mutton are in steady demand at full prices. Lamb moves off steadily at quite previous rates; otherwise the trade is dull.

## Per 8lbs. by the carcass.

s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
Inferior beef	3 0 to 3 4	Small pork	4 0 to 4 4
Middling ditto	3 6 3 8	Inf. mutton	3 6 3 10
Prime large do.	3 8 3 10	Middling ditto	4 0 4 4
Do. small do.	4 0 4 2	Prime ditto	4 8 4 10
Large pork	3 2 3 10	Veal	3 4 4 6

**PROVISIONS, Monday, May 23.**—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 771 firkins butter, and 2,729 bales of bacon; and from foreign ports 14,856 casks of butter, and 1,068 bales and 175 boxes of bacon. The demand for Irish butter is very limited, quite of a retail character; a few fine Clonmel shipping sold at 100s and 102s, and third Corks offering at 90s landed to arrive. Foreign butter, influenced by the heat of the weather, declined 4s to 6s per cwt.; best Dutch, 92s to 94s. The bacon market ruled very firm; prime fresh parcels brought 1s to 2s advance; sales of best Waterford made 61s on board for immediate shipment.

**POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, May 23.**—The supplies of potatoes on sale at these markets have, for the time of year, been very large. The trade for nearly all qualities is dull, yet prices are without material change from last week. The imports from the Continent, last week, were very small. The currency is as follows:—Yorkshire Regents 50s to 60s, ditto Flukes 50s to 65s, ditto Rocks 45s to 50s, ditto Seedlings 40s to 50s, Scotch Regents 40s to 50s, ditto Rocks 35s to 45s per ton.

**FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c., Saturday, May 21.**—We have to report a dull trade for flax, and prices are stationary. Hemp moves off heavily, and clean Russian is now quoted at 34s to 36s 10s per ton. Good and fine jute is firmer, but inferior qualities are a dull inquiry. Coir goods are rather inactive, without material change in value from last week.

**SEEDS, Monday, May 23.**—There has been a very small demand for seeds during the past week. The inquiry for trefoil continues, with few sellers.

**WOOL, Monday, May 23.**—Although upwards of 100,000 lbs. of colonial wool will be offered at the public sales now in progress, there is still rather an active inquiry for nearly all kinds of English wool, and in some instances the quotations have further advanced 1d per lb. The supplies on sale are very moderate.

**COALS, Monday, May 23.**—A reduction on the rates of last day's sale. South Hettons 17s, East Hartlepool 17s, Hollywell 17s, Eden Main 16s 6d, Russell Hettons 16s 6d, Hetton Lyon's 16s, Wylam 17s, West Wylam 16s, Hartley's 16s 6d, Braddyll 16s 6d. Left from last day 20; fresh arrivals 75.—Total, 95.—Ships sea, 95.

**OIL, Monday, May 23.**—Lined oil is firmer, and quoted at 39s 6d to 39s 9d per cwt. on the spot. Most other oils, however, are in slow request, at about previous rates. Foreign refined rape is held at 43s 6d, brown 41s 6d, Gallipoli olive 62s, Cochon coconut 42s, fine palm 36s, and sperm 74s to 76s per ton. French spirits of turpentine, since our last report, have sold as low as 70s, but are quoted now at 72s to 73s per cwt.

**TALLOW, Monday, May 23.**—The tallow trade is steady to-day, at late rates. P.Y.C. is quoted at 40s 3d per cwt. on the spot, 41s to 41s 3d for July to September, and 43s 3d to 43s 6d for October to December delivery. Town tallow 38s 9d net cash. Rough fat 2s 0½d. per 8lbs.

## Advertisements.

## AN IMMENSE CLOCK.

"The movement of this clock, next to that of Westminster, is the largest in the world, and in point of quality of material, and finish of workmanship, it is unequalled by any known."—Illustrated London News, Nov. 8, 1862.

Clocks by the first artists of the day for the drawing-room, dining-room, bed-room, library, hall, staircase, bracket, carriage, church, turret, railways, warehouse, counting-house, musical, and astronomical. Church and turret clocks specially estimated for. Benson's illustrated pamphlet on clocks (free by post for two stamps) with descriptions and prices, enables those who live in any part of the world to select a clock. Also a short pamphlet on Cathedral and public clocks, free for one stamp. Prize Medal and Honourable Mention in classes 33 and 15. J. W. Benson, 33 and 34, Ludgate-hill, London. Established 1749.

Watch and Clock Maker by Special Warrant of Appointment to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.



## OSTEO-EIDON.

## MESSRS. GABRIEL'S INVENTION.

GABRIEL'S Self-adhesive PATENT Indestructible MINERAL TEETH and FLEXIBLE GUMS, without palates, springs, or wires, and without operation, are indestructible, and warranted for mastication or articulation, at half the usual cost.

## MESSRS. GABRIEL,

THE OLD-ESTABLISHED DENTISTS,

27, HARLEY-STREET, CAVENDISH-SQUARE;  
34, LUDGATE-HILL (over Benson's, Silversmith), LONDON  
134, DUKE-STREET, LIVERPOOL; and  
65, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

AMERICAN MINERAL TEETH, from Four to Seven and Ten to Fifteen Guineas per Set, best in Europe, warranted. Gabriel's Practical "Treatise on the Teeth" gratis.

GABRIEL'S WHITE GUTTA-PERCHA ENAMEL, chemically prepared for personal use, prevents Toothache, and arrests decay,—supercedes all metallic stoppings. Prepared only by Messrs GABRIEL, and sold by all Chemists, at 1s. 6d. per box, with directions for use, or post free Twenty Stamps.

## TEETH and PAINLESS DENTISTRY.

Messrs. LEWIN MOSELY and SONS, 30, Berners-street, Oxford-street, and 448, Strand (opposite Charing-cross Railway Station), Established 1820, offer to the Public a medium for supplying Artificial Teeth on a system of PAINLESS DENTISTRY. These Teeth are cheaper, more natural, comfortable and durable than any yet produced. They are self-adhesive, affording support to Loose Teeth, rendering unnecessary either wires or ligatures, require but one visit to fit, and are supplied at prices completely defying competition. Consultation free. Teeth from 5s. Sets, 5, 7, 10, and 15 guineas, warranted. For the efficacy and success of this system, vide "Lancet." No connexion with any one of the same name.

TEETH supplied by Messrs. GODFREY received the Prize Medal awarded at the International Exhibition of 1862. One visit only required for their adjustment. They will last a life, and again restore the sunken face to its original beauty. A set from 2l. 10s. to Thirty Guineas. Stumps extracted painlessly. Teeth filled with gold—guaranteed for twenty years.  
17, Hanover-street, Hanover-square, W.

**REMOVAL.**—Messrs. ALEX and JONES, Surgeon-Dentists, have REMOVED their practice to 53, BROOK-STREET, GROSVENOR-SQUARE, in consequence of their premises, 31, New Bridge-street, being required by the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway.

**CANDLES. Prize Medal. PARAFFINE**  
Adopted by Her Majesty's Government for the Military Stations.

## J. C. &amp; J. FIELD,

The original Manufacturers, and holders of the 1862 Prize Medal, caution the public against any spurious imitations. Their label is on all Packets and Boxes.

Sold by all Dealers throughout the Kingdom. Wholesale and for exportation at the Works, Upper Marsh, Lambeth, London, S., where also may be obtained their celebrated United Service Soap Tablets.

## FIELD'S CELEBRATED UNITED SERVICE SOAP TABLETS.

4d. and 6d. each, sold by all Chandlers and Grocers throughout the Kingdom; but the Public should ask for FIELD'S, and see that the name of J. C. and J. FIELD is on each Packet, Box, and Tablet.

Wholesale and for Exportation at the Works, Upper Marsh, Lambeth, London, S., where also may be obtained their Prize Medal Paraffine Candles.

## RUPTURES.

## BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

**WHITE'S MOC-MAIN PATENT LEVER TRUSS**, requiring no steel spring round the body, is recommended for the following peculiarities and advantages:—1st. Facility of application; 2nd. Perfect freedom from liability to chafe or excoriate; 3rd. It may be worn with equal comfort in any position of the body, by night or day; 4th. It admits of every kind of exercise without the slightest inconvenience to the wearer, and is perfectly concealed from observation.

"We do not hesitate to give to this invention our unqualified approbation; and we strenuously advise the use of it to all those who stand in need of that protection, which they cannot so fully, nor with the same comfort, obtain from any other apparatus or truss as from that which we have the highest satisfaction in thus recommending."—Church and State Gazette.

Recommended by the following eminent Surgeons:—William Ferguson, Esq., F.R.S., Professor of Surgery in King's College, Surgeon to King's College Hospital, &c.; C. G. Guthrie, Esq., Surgeon to the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital; W. Bowman, Esq., F.R.S., Assistant-Surgeon to King's College Hospital; T. Callaway, Esq., Senior Assistant-Surgeon to Guy's Hospital; W. Coulson, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the Magdalen Hospital; T. Blizard, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the London Hospital; W. J. Fisher, Esq., Surgeon-in-Chief to the Metropolitan Police Force; Aston Key, Esq., Surgeon to Prince Albert; Robert Liston, Esq., F.R.S.; James Luke, Esq., Surgeon to the London Truss Society; Erasmus Wilson, Esq., F.R.S. and many others.

A Descriptive Circular may be had by post and the Truss which cannot fail to fit) can be forwarded by post, on sending the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, to the Manufacturer.

Mr. WHITE, 228, PICCADILLY, LONDON.

Price of a Single Truss, 16s., 21s., 26s. 6d., and 31s. 6d. Postage, 1s.

Price of a Double Truss, 31s. 6d., 42s., and 52s. 6d. Postage 1s. 8d.

Price of an Umbilical Truss, 42s. and 52s. Postage 1s. 10d.

Post-office Orders to be made payable to John White, Post Office, Piccadilly.

## NEW PATENT

## ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE-CAPS, &amp;c.

The material of which these are made is recommended by the faculty as being peculiarly elastic and compressible, and the best invention for giving efficient and permanent support, in all cases of WEAKNESS, and swelling of the LEGS, VARI- COSE VEINS, SPRAINS, &c. It is porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and is drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price 4s. 6d., 7s. 6d. 12s., to 16s. each. Postage 6d.

John White, Manufacturer, 228, Piccadilly, London.

## PIANOFORTES FOR HIRE.

CARRIAGE FREE.

Option of Purchase, on Convenient Terms, at any Period.

## PEACHEY'S

CITY OF LONDON MANUFACTORY,

AND EXTENSIVE SHOW-ROOMS,

73, Bishopsgate-street Within, London, E.C.,

opposite the Marine Society.

An extensive assortment of PIANOFORTES, WARRANTED New and Second-hand. Every Description and Price.

HARMONIUMS FOR SALE OR HIRE.

\* \* New Grand Pianofortes for HIRE, for Concerts, Lectures, &c.

## PIANOFORTES, with EASY TERMS of PURCHASE.

Honourable mention for good and cheap Pianofortes was given by the Jury at the Great International Exhibition, 1862, to MOORE and MOORE, 104, Bishopsgate-street Within, London, E.C. See the Royal Commissioners' Report. Pianofortes Extraordinary. These Pianos are of rare excellence, with the best improvements, recently applied, which effect a grand, a pure and delightful quality of tone, that stands unrivalled. Prices from Eighteen Guineas.

First-class Pianos for hire, with easy terms of purchase. A very large and choice Stock for Selection; also a variety of Second-hand Pianos at low prices.

The Best Harmoniums for Sale or Hire. Carriage free.

## DÎNERS À LA Russe.

## A VARIETY OF NEW DESIGNS

## SILVER PLATE AND SILVER GILT DINNER SERVICES

FOR THE SEASON 1864.

MAY BE SEEN AT

## MAPPIN BROTHERS,

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LONDON BRIDGE, & 222, REGENT STREET W

MANUFACTORY AT SHEFFIELD.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1810.

SECOND-HAND PLATE PURCHASED OR EXCHANGED.

## SAUCE.—LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

This delicious Condiment, pronounced by Connoisseurs

"THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE."

Is prepared solely by LEA and PERRINS.

The Public are respectfully cautioned against worthless imitations, and should see that LEA and PERRINS' Names are on Wrapper, Label, Bottle, and Stopper.

## ASK FOR LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

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## TAYLOR BROTHERS' GENUINE MUSTARD.

Dr. HASSELL, having subjected this mustard to a rigorous microscopical examination and chemical analysis, reports that it contains the three essential properties of good Mustard, viz.:—

PURITY, PUNGENCY, AND DELICATE FLAVOUR.

See that each Package bears their Trade Mark the "Prize Oz," and Dr. Hassell's Report.

Sold by all Grocers, &c., throughout the kingdom.

TAYLOR BROTHERS, Brick-lane, & Wentworth-street, London, N.E.

Established 1801.

Rail Paid to any Station in England.

## Very Choice Marsala or Bronte Wine.

THOMAS NUNN and SONS have great pleasure in bringing this excellent yet economical Wine to the notice of their customers; the approvals of it continue numerous and most flattering; it is of the highest quality, well matured, and full-bodied, and so thoroughly clean tasted that it will go on improving for years to come; and has this advantage over Sherry, that it may be taken by the most delicate person without causing acidity in the stomach. Their selections have been made with so much care, that they have no hesitation in saying, the most perfect satisfaction will accrue to every purchaser.

25s. per doz. 7l. 4s. per 6 doz. 12l. 15s. per 1 cask.

From THOMAS NUNN and SONS,

Wine, Spirit, and Liqueur Merchants,

21, Lamb's Conduit-street, Foundling Hospital, London, W.C.

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